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ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 12 May

LD1205103193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0602 GMT 12 May 93

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS—The press highlights articles connected with the 48th anniversary of the victory over fascism. "This time, as never before, the victory anniversary—a sacred date for all people in Russia and not only for them—was anticipated with a certain anxiety," writes TRUD. The newspaper's opinion is that "despite the anticipation, the holiday was not clouded in any way."

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (RED STAR) reports how the holiday was marked in Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Armenia, and Estonia. The newspaper concludes that the Victory Day holiday was marked "with honour and dignity."

TRUD's news analyst Vitaliy Golovachev examines in detail the living standards of the population of Russia. "A rather strong differentiation is observed in our society. This is, perhaps, one of the major irritants in the country where the egalitarian principle has been inculcated for years, with official propaganda regarding the principle almost as the greatest blessing," the analyst writes.

Giving the latest statistical data, Golovachev draws a conclusion that "the underestimation of the social factor was one of serious errors in the reform process."

"It seems that the government is now increasingly aware of that when mapping out and partially implementing appropriate measures," the journalist observes.

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, newspaper of the Supreme Soviet (parliament), carries Parliament Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov's article headlined "The Constitutional Crisis: Ways out of it."

Khasbulatov's opinion is that "the April 25 referendum did not and could not resolve the political, constitutional crisis in the Russian Federation. It only reflected the polarity of views in society and people's deep disillusionment with power as such."

The speaker believes that one of the causes of the constitutional crisis is that the search for a balance among the three branches of power in a society which undergoes reform cannot evolve without conflicts, without their periodic exacerbation and subsequent "easing."

A way out of the constitutional crisis, Khasbulatov believes, should be sought primarily along the path of renunciation of "unconstitutional attempts to adopt a new constitution."

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA analyses the latest tour of the North Caucasus by a government delegation led by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin.

"It is difficult to say what prompted the leadership of the Russian Federation to arrange a tour of North Caucasian republics by such a widely-representative delegation: Either a desire to get a closer look at its problems or the results of the referendum—the first question of which (about confidence in the president—note by ITAR-TASS) evoked an extremely negative response in the area (except North Ossetia)—or, maybe, all that taken together," the newspaper writes.

The press reports that Yuriy Skokov, secretary of Russia's Security Council, and deputy prime minister Georgiy Khizha have been relieved of their duties.

PRAVDA, commenting on Skokov's displacement, explains it by the fact that he "firmly came out against any power-wielding anti-constitutional forces" and on March 20, this year, declined to initial "the draft presidential decree on the introduction of a special procedure for the administration of the country," the draft decree "which was subsequently recognized as unconstitutional."

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA carries an interview with Colonel General Zivot Panic, chief of the General Staff of the armed forces of the Union Republic of Yugoslavia, who believes that "a bombing operation against the positions of the Army of the Serbian Republic, the idea of which is being so zealously advocated by individual political figures of the world community, would not lead to peace. It would, rather, result in a spread of war in the Balkans."

Yeltsin, Kohl Discuss Bosnia During Phone Call

LD1105183893 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 11 May 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] This evening a telephone conversation took place between President Yeltsin and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on the latter's initiative. In the course of the conversation a range of issues relating to Bosnia's settlement were discussed, the president's press office reported.

Kozyrev May Visit Balkans Before Vance-Owen Vote

MK1105120093 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 11 May 93 p 10

[Viktor Zamyatin, Aleksandr Yepikhodov report: "Russian Policy on Balkans. Moscow Awaits Bosnian Referendum Results]

[Excerpts] **The [Victory Day] celebrations over the weekend did not slacken the efforts of Russian diplomacy, which continues to pin its hopes upon exclusively political methods to settle the Bosnian crisis. On 10 May, Vitaliy Churkin, special representative of the Russian president, returned from Belgrade where he talked with Dobrica Cosic, president of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. He also went to Bosnia where he met with the leaders of the Bosnian Serbs. Churkin tried to follow the precept of "doing no damage" of which Boris Yeltsin recently made mention in reference to the Balkans. [passage omitted]**

According to KOMMERSANT-DAILY information, Vitaliy Churkin's visit to the Balkans may soon be followed by a visit there by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, who recently came up with an initiative to hold a session of Security Council member countries' foreign ministers on Bosnian territory. This idea, however, has not elicited support to date. According to some information from the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kozyrev's visit may take place shortly before the referendum of the Bosnian Serbs on 15 and 16 May, when they will be answering the questions on whether they approve of the Vance-Owen plan, and whether they have the right to reunite with the other Serbian territories.

Moscow still has not given up hope that the Bosnian Serbs will approve the plan out of an instinct for self-preservation. If that happens, Moscow will take part in the UN-sponsored peacekeeping operation—plans for such participation are being updated. It appears, however, that Moscow has no specific action plan in the event the Serbs say no to the Vance-Owen plan.

Yugoslav Chief of Staff Warns Intervention 'Disastrous'

PM1105190193 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 May 93 p 3

["Exclusive" interview with Colonel General Zivota Panic, chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, by Colonel Aleksandr Oliynik; granted "before second decision of Bosnian Serbs' parliament rejecting Vance-Owen plan," with Belgrade-Moscow dateline: "'Military Intervention in Bosnia Would Be a Disaster for the Balkans...'"]

[Text] [Oliynik] General, thank you for agreeing, as you did in February, to answer our questions and to meet with us. Why do you think some Western countries are so one-sided in their approach to the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina [BH] and in their assessment of the Yugoslav leadership's actions?

[Panic] It is not so much a one-sided approach by certain Western states to the causes of the war in BH, as the interests they are pursuing in that region. Anyone who does not appreciate this will not appreciate the essence of the war in BH. If you recall, the United States was the first to swiftly recognize BH as an autonomous and independent state, contrary to the interests of the Serbs, who are one of the three main peoples that make up the state and who wanted to remain in a united Yugoslavia. By recognizing the division of BH and by supporting the Muslim-Croat coalition, the Islamic and other, Western states sought to increase their influence in the region. By putting out propaganda against the Serbs and accusing them of aggression in BH, these countries were actually trying to conceal their own real role in the processes taking place in the region. This applies above all to Germany and Turkey. Of course, the Serbian people in BH could not accept this political approach, so they took up arms...

As for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which, as is known, incorporates the republics of Serbia and Montenegro, as a sovereign state has always advocated a political solution of the military conflict in BH on the basis of consensus and the sides' equality. We have always thought that all decisions on BH must be worked out by means of a comprehensive study of the causes and consequences of the crisis and, above all, the fairest possible measures of a long-term nature, acceptable to all three peoples in BH. Only on this basis can the bloody civil war be stopped.

[Oliynik] What is your comment on the new sanctions adopted by the Security Council in relation to Serbia and Montenegro and their possible impact on the implementation of the Vance-Owen plan and the peace process in the Balkans?

[Panic] The Security Council's sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro are not only unjust and inhuman, but are objectively genocidal, since they are directed against

the people's elementary needs and will lead to population migration and to the decline of the general living standard of Yugoslav citizens. Moreover, the new sanctions primarily affect the interests of children, the sick and wounded, refugees, and so on. I would like to remind you that there are over 700,000 refugees on the territory of Yugoslavia, including a significant number of Muslims and Croats, that is, members of peoples waging war against the Serbs in BH. So why have sanctions been imposed on Serbia and Montenegro, which are not involved in this armed conflict at all? Effectively we have been made hostages of a war that is being waged outside our territories, in another state—BH. So I believe that the new draconian sanctions against our country will not resolve, indeed they cannot resolve the interethnic, interreligious enmity in BH. Despite the imposition of sanctions, the Bosnian Serbs have not rejected the Vance-Owen plan, the peace process. On the contrary, they are still in favor of its continuation. I hope that in the referendum on 15-16 May the Serbian people will have their final say on the subject. This is addressed in the statement by President D. Cosic, S. Milosevic, and M. Bulatovic in connection with the Serbian Republic parliament's refusal to sign the map of the administrative and territorial division of BH, which is an integral part of the Vance-Owen plan. On the other hand, the Croat and Muslim army's offensive against the Bosnian Serbs, the constant military threats by certain Western countries, the military blockade of the airspace, the tough economic sanctions, the political and diplomatic ultimatums, and the unprecedented propaganda pressure can only be explained as part of a scenario geared to finally breaking the Serbian people's resistance and forcing them to live in newly created states in accordance with the "new world order." Imposing a political ultimatum on the Serbs in this way will not lead to the establishment of a lasting peace.

[Oliynik] What do you have to say about Russia's role in the establishment of peace in the Balkans?

[Panic] We believe that hitherto Russia's role in the establishment of peace in the Balkans has not corresponded to its objective geopolitical and geostrategic interests at the European and Balkan levels. The reasons for this are clear, but unacceptable. Unfortunately, Russia has subscribed to practically all the Security Council resolutions that have been introduced against the Serbian people in general and against their mother state—the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia—in particular.

The Serbian people, who for the third time this century are faced with the threat of extermination, had a right to expect Russia to rise to the defense of our national interests for two main reasons. First, historical proximity and the age-old alliance with mother Russia—this is what we lovingly call your country—were pushing us toward this; second, in my view this would accord with the geopolitical and geostrategic interests of Russia itself in the long term. Because we are talking about a country and a state which possesses a vast territory, great natural and power resources, and demographic and scientific potential. This is the basis of the military and defensive might which enables Russia to be a superpower and to command respect throughout the world, including the United States. The emergence of a reborn Russia into the world political arena is just a matter of time. We do not wish to complicate in any way your "via dolorosa" toward the country's rebirth, but at the same time we expect the kind of support that Russia itself must decide on. We believe that Yugoslavia is the forward edge of Russia's defense, and your country must not so easily hand us over to the directors of the "new world order." Because it is, in a certain sense, a question of the very existence of Serbian statehood.

[Oliynik] Since the Bosnian Serbs' parliament rejected the Vance-Owen plan, the question of intervention in the BH conflict by NATO forces under UN auspices has again been placed on the agenda. How does the army regard possible military intervention, and what could be the consequences?

[Panic] Bombing the positions of the Serbian Republic's army, as certain politicians of the world community advocate so strongly, will not bring peace. It will most likely lead to the spread of war in the Balkans. I want to repeat that in the civil war being waged in BH a solution cannot be found by force. Lebanon confirms this with the utmost clarity. It is obvious that any kind of military intervention will be a disaster for the Balkans and, maybe, for all of Europe. It will lead to the fanning of war and increase the tragic consequences. Historical experience—and we must return to it—shows that the longed-for peace can be achieved nowadays only by using political means, not through the use of weapons. Unfortunately, many practical steps still attest to a military option for resolving the Bosnian crisis. Meanwhile, there is not a single reason to cause new human casualties. I hope that the democratic public in Western countries and in Russia will do everything to avoid any military option. But if it is still a matter of implementing any option of military intervention, I wish to declare most responsibly that the Yugoslav Army is ready for all versions of a military scenario. In the event of aggression we will be forced to act in the spirit of the military traditions of the Serbian and the Montenegrin peoples. The consequences of a possible military solution to the crisis in BH would be disastrous for the Balkans and for all of Europe. The world community and particularly Russia must not allow this.

U.S. Delegation Visits Urals, Discusses Aid

LD1105152393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1418 GMT 11 May 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nadezhda Potapova]

[Text] Yekaterinburg May 11 TASS—A U.S. delegation, consisting of specialists from the White House, State Department, and finance and defence ministries [as received], met with regional authorities in the Ural city

of Yekaterinburg on Tuesday [11 May] to discuss possibilities of sending part of the U.S. aid for Russia to concrete small and medium-sized businesses in the Urals.

The U.S. delegation is now on a tour of CIS member countries on a commission from President Bill Clinton "with an aim of improving relations with Russia and other CIS states on their way to a market economy and for Russia's people to see the fruit borne by the Vancouver meeting with Boris Yeltsin", the delegation head, a special adviser to the U.S. secretary of state for newly independent states, told reporters. He stressed that the U.S. side, "being interested in decentralization of Russia's politics and economy and choosing to deal directly with regions, by-passing Moscow", would like to find out "what forms of economic aid are most useful at present".

While in Yekaterinburg, the U.S. delegation visited the "Uralmash" motor works, looked into problems pertaining to conversion of defence-related enterprises.

Earlier the delegation visited the Ukrainian capital Kiev and later today it is scheduled to leave for Moscow, after which it will visit some other capitals of CIS member countries.

Yeltsin Voices Concern to Shevardnadze Over Kutaisi Attack

LD1205084593 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin voiced his concern over an attack by a group of armed thugs in Kutaisi against the residential quarters of a combat engineers' battalion of the group of Russian Federation troops in Transcaucasia and over the taking of women and children as hostages.

One has the impression that certain quarters in Georgia are attempting to block the normalization of Russian-Georgian relations and to ruin the political dialogue between us, says the letter sent by the Russian Federation president to the head of the Georgian state Eduard Shevardnadze.

In this document, which was circulated by the Presidential Press Service, Yeltsin also urged the Georgian leader to take all necessary steps to have the event carefully investigated and the criminals punished.

Visas Necessary for Latvians, Estonians Entering Russia

LD1105202093 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 2000 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] As from Wednesday [12 May], visas are being introduced for entry into Russia for citizens of Latvia and Estonia until the possible conclusion of bilateral agreements on reciprocal trips by citizens of those countries. According to a report by the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry, for citizens of the former USSR permanently residing in Latvia and Estonia but who have not received citizenship of those countries, visa-free entry into Russia will be maintained until 6 February 1995.

Baltic Fleet Exercises Begin in Baltic Sea

LD1205082893 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 0500 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] Exercises by the Russian Baltic Fleet—lasting until 15 May—have begun in the Baltic Sea. The exercises, in which the use of ammunition and missiles is envisaged, will be held near Latvian territorial waters.

Nationalists Visit Europe, Claim Western Support

MK1105121493 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 11 May 93 p 10

[Yevgeniy Yanayev report published in "Russian Rightists To Get Western Aid" column: "Russian Patriots Travel to Italy, Switzerland"]

[Text] Dmitriy Rogozin, chairman of the Russian Revival Union, held a press conference yesterday in the Russian Social-Political Center, devoted to the results of the Russian patriots' visit to Italy and Switzerland. According to Rogozin, a number of important political organizations in Western Europe, as well as representatives of financial circles, promised to render active assistance to Russia even after Boris Yeltsin resigns.

According to Rogozin, it was no accident that the visit of the patriots' delegation to Western Europe coincided with the Russia-wide referendum. Had a state of emergency been introduced in Russia immediately after the referendum, Rogozin said, a permanent representation reflecting the interests of the patriots opposition might have been created. So far the patriots have not needed to do this, but in order to build up contacts between rightist political movements in the West and the Russian opposition, a representative, whose name is not being divulged, has been left in Western Europe.

Rogozin told the press conference that the visit to Italy was made at the invitation of a public organization, the Italian Front. Rogozin noted that this front had promised to help the Russian Revival Union establish contacts with those political parties and movements in the West that are concerned over the interference by the United States and Germany in Russia's internal affairs. "In particular we have reached accord that the front will render us assistance in ensuring that the events unfolding in Russia get more accurate coverage in Western media outlets," Rogozin said.

In addition, the Russian patriots have for the first time had contacts with representatives of the Vatican. "We have found support in Central Europe. The leaders of large Italian and Swiss banks in the course of the meeting expressed their readiness to assist Russia if the IMF and

the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development do not," Dmitriy Rogozin said in conclusion, not specifying, however, which particular banks had promised to help Russia.

It was also announced at the press conference that the Russian Revival Union intends by 1 June to complete the formation of an election block to unite "politicians advocating patriotic positions and upholding private ownership of the means of production."

At present the Revival Union is conducting talks with the Russian National Assembly led by General Aleksandr Sterligov, and Civic Union.

Dubna Holds International Physics Seminar

LD1105143793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1415 GMT 11 May 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Molchanov]

[Text] Dubna May 11 TASS—The main tasks of an international seminar in Dubna made up of scientists from 24 countries are to discuss the prospects for developing heavy ion physics and exchange the results of already completed research.

According to Yuriy Pennonzhkevich, deputy director of the Flerov Nuclear Reactions Laboratory of the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, a promising direction in heavy ion physics has been found.

Completely new nuclear systems have been worked out which are called "exotic nuclei". It is now possible to conduct research on bundles of radioactive nuclei.

A number of countries have already begun experiments, and "factories" to produce radioactive nuclei are being designed for the future. The new U-400m cyclotron invented by Russian scientists will provide science with greater possibilities in this field.

International cooperation is of great significance in this area. "It is of no small importance that our colleagues from abroad are already travelling to Russia with their ideas and methods," said Pennonzhkevich.

The joint creation with German research centres of a large Fobos physics installation and different equipment for the synthesis of new trans-uranium elements is a good example of such scientific cooperation.

Russian physicists are pinning great hopes on a project which has been praised by the world scientific community: The setting up of accumulator rings to produce radioactive nuclei. This work will be accomplished by the joint efforts of leading scientists from various countries.

Il-96 Flight to New York To Improve Canadian Ties

PM1105145193 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 7 May 93

[By Yu. Rostov and Ye. Sveshnikov from New York; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Rostov] An Il-96 has arrived in New York from Moscow on a technical flight. It was almost two hours late. The Il-96 is a new aircraft, designed and assembled entirely on the territory of Russia. It main feature is that its engines are 30 percent more economical.

The inauguration of direct flights from Moscow to New York could also help to resolve a small problem in Russian-Canadian relations. Of late, Canada has been very reluctant to authorize stopovers for our aircraft headed for New York as there have been several cases in which whole planeloads of passengers have asked Canada for political asylum. Under Canadian Law, several months of investigation are required for every application of this kind.

Yeltsin Decrees New Constitution To Be Complete 10 Jun

LD1205090093 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin has issued a decree on completing preparations for a new Russian Federation Constitution. Boris Yeltsin declared that the drafting of the new main law is to be completed by 10 June 1993, using as a basis the presidential draft issued to the subjects of the federation, to the Supreme Soviet and to people's deputies.

In order to consider and complete the preparation of the new draft constitution, a constitutional assembly is to be convened in Moscow on 5 June, with the participation of two empowered representatives from each subject of the federation, of presidential representatives, and also of agreed representatives of Russian Federation people's deputies factions.

The draft is to be finalized, taking account of proposals put forward by bodies of state authority, political parties and trade unions. It is decreed that a working party chaired by the president has been set up in order to finish working on the new constitution. [Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian at 0800 GMT on 12 May, after noting that President Yeltsin intends forming working groups to work on preparing a new constitution, states: "According to Vyacheslav Kostikov, the president's press secretary, Boris Yeltsin thinks that the work on the constitution should be completed in June, thus ending the period of dyarchy, which is ruinous for Russia."]

Constitution Working Commission Members Detailed

LD1205103493 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] The press service of the Russian president has announced the membership of the working commission for amending the draft of the new constitution set up on the instructions of Boris Yeltsin. It comprises, inter alia:

The president; Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin; lawyer Sergey Alekseyev; the ministers of security, defense, and foreign affairs; and acting Minister of Justice Yuriy Kalmykov.

Other members of the commission are a number of Russian deputy prime ministers; heads of individual republics forming part of the Russian Federation; members of the Constitutional Commission; people's deputies; heads of administration of a number of oblasts and krays; the mayors of Moscow and St. Petersburg; and prominent politicians.

Yeltsin Orders Reduction of Rutskoy's Secretariat

LD1105153393 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1500 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] The secretariat of Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy was cut today at the order of Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin by more than 80 percent. Of 40 members working in it, only six are left.

Kostikov Explains Cut

LD1205093293 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0800 GMT 12 May 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin has ordered that the secretariat of Russia's Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy be cut from 40 to six members.

Vyacheslav Kostikov, the president's press secretary, explained to a TASS correspondent that the only reason for the cuts in Aleksandr Rutskoy's secretariat is that the vice president has been stripped of all personal work for the president by Boris Yeltsin's previous decrees. Since the amount of work Rutskoy has to do has decreased, there is no need for him to have a large secretariat.

Kostikov Cited on Dismissal of Skokov, Khizha

LD1205085493 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] The press secretary of Russia's president, Vyacheslav Kostikov, has stated that Boris Yeltsin, who at the recent referendum was given by the people top powers to carry out sweeping economic reforms, has launched a new staff policy. When explaining the reasons for the removal of Yuriy Skokov, the secretary of Russia's Security Council, and of Vice Premier Georgiy Khizha, the press secretary made it clear that in order to put into practice the mandate given by the people the president now needs statesmen who fully share the ideology of reforms and he added that Yuriy Skokov has repeatedly, in a direct or indirect way, demonstrated a stand which differs from that of the president. The press secretary did not rule out the possibility of more changes in Russia's leadership.

Kozyrev on Skokov's Dismissal

LD1105200193 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] Yuriy Skokov was dismissed from the post of Security Council secretary because of his disagreement with the president. This is how Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev commented on the event. In his interview to RIA he noted that politicians and leading functionaries who had fundamentally different opinions with regard to Boris Yeltsin's policy on the eve of the referendum should not remain in the president's office any longer.

I will remind you that Vice Premier Georgiy Khizha has also lost his post.

Commentator Views High-Level Personnel Changes

LD1105222893 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] The political changes awaited for such a long time have come at last. But they did not occur in the sphere of documents but in the sphere of cadre policy. On 11 May Security Council Secretary Yuriy Skokov and Georgiy Khizha, deputy head of the government, were relieved of their posts. The official motivation for this decision was naturally the traditional one: owing to their transfer to other jobs. This is what our Commentator Sergey Shevykin thinks:

[Shevykin] Rumors about the impending resignations of Yuriy Skokov and Georgiy Khizha have been circulating for several days now. They were not conjectures but assertions, but they had not been registered officially and legally. Then the presidential decrees appeared, evidently not the last ones in this series. They are only opening up a period of considerable renewal in the President's administration and the government.

The new cadre policy was made public by Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Shumeyko back on 5 May. At that time he was acting in what was a new capacity for him, as the person responsible for political and cadre issues. The deputy prime minister stressed that in the government apparatus it is necessary to get rid of those people whose ideological views have a negative effect on the work. At the present time there are many staff members in government bodies from the apparatuses of the CPSU Central Committee, the former president of the Soviet Union, and the USSR Council of Ministers. Hence the opposition's claims that they have their people in the higher echelons of power, the deputy prime minister believes.

The president's tactics aimed at completely rejecting attempts at cooperation with the so-called anti-reformer opposition are acquiring a finished appearance. One recalls the slogan: He who is not with us is against us. There is an impression that an attempt is being made to make up for the time wasted since August 1991. Several fairly harsh decrees are awaiting Boris Yeltsin's signature. According to the designs of those who drew them up, they should open up the way to a presidential republic. One can judge its essence from one of the prepared documents, the law on (?vetting). In accordance with this law, it is possible that there will be a five-year ban on jobs in the civil service for former party apparatchiks.

However, some observers doubt that the president will sign that decree. Similar acts in a number of the former socialist countries of Eastern Europe have already shown that they are unrealistic. Too many of the present reformers have a nomenklatura past behind them Unconfirmed information indicates that from that point of view the presidential team will continue without discrimination, let's say, in the capacity of a possible successor to Yuriy Skokov they are mentioning a KGB man, Sergey Stepashin.

Also, Oleg Lobov, a person who fought in his time for the post of the first person in the RSFSR Communist Party, recently became first deputy prime minister. The watershed is being drawn not according to the past but according to the future. People are being removed from the first echelon who, with considerable support from the opposition, may become rivals to the presidential team in the forthcoming elections or will not be averse to sharing compromising material for Rutskoy's next speech.

Khasbulatov Addresses Meeting on New Constitution

LD1205085193 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0800 GMT 12 May 93

[Report by Michail Svetlichnyy; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Ruslan Khasbulatov spoke today at the conference of heads of soviets of members of the Russian Federation. He urged them to take a calm attitude toward the results of the recent referendum. Khasbulatov said: We have acceded to the referendum per force, but it has not brought us anything constructive. For one thing, out of all the members of the Federation, 40 have responded negatively. It would be an unforgivable mistake to attempt to force the victors' ideology upon society, Ruslan Imranovich said.

On the main subject of the conference—the new draft constitution—the chairman of the Supreme Soviet noted that work on it should be conducted constitutionally, and that it should be adopted by those bodies who are entitled to do this by the country's principal law.

Speaks on Referendum

LD1205114393 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0830 GMT 12 May 93

[Report by correspondent Aleksandr Ruvinskiy]

[Text] I am reporting from the White House, where a meeting of heads of soviets of republics, oblasts, and krays is currently taking place. Supreme Soviet Chairman Khasbulatov, the whole Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, and the Constitutional Court chairman are also taking part in this meeting. They are talking about the constitution, which should be adopted in the near future. I will tell you about it now.

Khasbulatov opened this meeting and said that we have a rather difficult situation in connection with the results of the referendum. Khasbulatov said—and I quote him—that only a person who is out of his mind can speak about a victory at the referendum. Speaking about the results of the referendum, Khasbulatov said, once again, that everyone who did not vote is an opponent of the president.

Khasbulatov also said that it would be better if we had not held the referendum at all. He also expressed his doubt about the trustworthiness of the information that was published as a result of this referendum. He believes that many votes by those who did not vote were added to supporters of the president. [as heard]

Khasbulatov did not say how he obtained this information. Khasbulatov also said that all ways of adopting the constitution over the heads of the deputies are criminal. He also said that we gathered today at this meeting in order to dampen the new ideologists' ardor. Probably, he meant the representatives of the executive structures. In addition, Khasbulatov believes that constitutional problems, as a whole, have become very pressing questions at the present time, and they are one of the means to divert the attention of the population from the economic problems of the state.

It is likely that the Supreme Soviet has already elaborated a plan for work on a new constitution for the next two months. On 6 July, there should be a plenary session of the Constitutional Commission, at which they will be talking about a final draft constitution in which all opinions and wishes of the subjects of the Federation will be taken into consideration.

Speaking at the meeting that took place today, Khasbulatov also said that it is a myth that the Congress is not able to adopt the constitution. On the one hand, it is likely that Khasbulatov wants the Congress to adopt the constitution; on the other hand, there was, for the first time, a thesis in his speech that it is possible that the Congress will not be able to adopt the constitution. In such a case, the constitution should be adopted by the Supreme Soviet of a new composition, which will be elected during the elections.

He did not speak about when these elections may take place. It is likely that he meant the elections that will be held according to the Constitution after the present composition of the Supreme Soviet and the Congress finishes its constitutional term.

A speech by Council of Ministers Chairman Chernomyrdin is also expected at the meeting today. However, this will take place this afternoon, and we will tell you about the meeting in more detail in our Mayak Panorama.

Cited on Adoption Procedures

LD1205134593 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] At this hour, Ruslan Khasbulatov chairs a meeting of representatives of the supreme soviets of the Russian Federation republics and leaders of all local bodies of the representative power. The main idea expressed by the speakers at the meeting is that the constitutional reform must not be allowed to begin another round of political confrontation. This is what our parliamentary correspondent Vyacheslav Osipov reports:

[Osipov] The general tone of the meeting was set by speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov. In his opening speech, he noted that state ideologists are trying to distract society from problems, imposing on it arguments about the new constitution.

[Begin Khasbulatov recording] The first task is to use common sense in considering the socioeconomic situation currently existing in the country as a whole and in its regions. Second, we must recognize that the political situation is such that it is, of course, necessary to work more dynamically on the draft of the new constitution.

The third point concerns procedural matters. It would simply be criminal for us to embark on an unconstitutional path in adopting a constitution. Therefore, procedures are particularly important here for adoption of the constitution—procedures that can be seen as part of the framework of constitutional legality. I would like to remind you that the refusal to comply with the constitutional methods of political restructuring in society led to the disintegration of the union.

That is precisely the scenario that is now being prepared for the subjects of the federation, because some very dubious matters are being initiated beyond the Constitutional Commission and the Supreme Soviet. All these cunning games must be discarded by us clearly and deliberately. There is only one way for the state to implement a constitutional reform—by using the existing constitutional mechanisms. If they are imperfect, let us then adopt different procedures, but do it legally. [end recording]

[Osipov] Making an assessment of the [word indistinct] the parliamentary speaker meant, of course, the president and his entourage—who are also hastily trying to push through their version of the constitution. Incidentally, at today's meeting, the leaders of soviets received a comparative table of the two draft constitutions—that of the president and that of the Constitutional Commission. So, the subjects of the federation have something to think about. They will have to ponder not just the texts of the constitutions, but also the mechanism for their adoption of the main law.

Who will be doing it? Chairman of the Supreme Soviet Khasbulatov said, it seems, that the myth that the congress cannot adopt the constitution must be dispelled. On the other hand, he himself expressed some doubts over the viability of that body.

Speaking at the meeting, Constitutional Court Chairman Valeriy Zorkin noted that no-one is allowed to distort the results of the referendum and to use one's own methods in adopting a new constitution. Zorkin called on the regions to actively influence the constitutional process and to prevent the disintegration of society to the lull about the advantages of the executive power.

Khasbulatov, Zorkin Remarks Cited

LD1205130093 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 12 May 93

[By correspondents D. Pugacheva and K. Belov; from the "Vesti" newscast; passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] [Announcer Vinogradov] A session of chairmen of republican supreme soviets and heads of soviets of people's deputies has taken place at the House of Soviets in Moscow. It was chaired by Parliament Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov. There was only one topic on the agenda—the parliament's draft of the constitution.

[D. Pugacheva] At the conference of representatives of the Federation's soviets of people's deputies, the parliamentary speaker appealed to representatives of various political forces—those gladdened by the victory at the referendum and those saddened by it—to display a calm approach and common sense. Khasbulatov paid particular attention to the procedure for adopting a constitution. He thinks that it should be adopted strictly by using the existing constitutional mechanisms. In the words of the Supreme Soviet chairman, the denunciation of constitutional methods in reforming the society led to the disintegration of the Union and started the breakup of Russia at the same time.

[Khasbulatov] "It is precisely this scenario—or more likely a trap—that is currently being prepared for the Federation's subjects. The point is that those high-ranking officials who are trying to exceed the boundaries of the constitution are trying to drag the regions into participating and are trying to turn the regions, the subjects of the Federation, into their accomplices. One should bear in mind that the aim of this exercise is to lay the blame on all of them."

[Pugacheva] After the referendum, the speaker continued, state power grew weaker, and it is necessary now to restore the manageability of the political process.

[Khasbulatov] "I am not in favor of rejecting presidential ideas without due consideration, but they should be put on a legal footing, on a constitutional footing."

[K. Belov] Judging by questions to Vasiliy Kazakov [chairman of the Central Electoral Commission] from participants of the conference, the chairmen of soviets of the Federation are not satisfied with the results of the referendum. Many of them reproached the Constitutional Court for making a decision that allegedly helped presidential policy to gain the approval of the people yet again. [Constitutional Court Chairman] Valeriy Zorkin had to explain his position once again. As it turned out, the Constitutional Court only wanted to stress by its decision that answers to the first and second questions are only of a moral and political nature and do not give anyone new executive power.

[Zorkin] "What do those in power, or just individual citizens as members of some political parties, think when they appeal to people to show resolute actions that would actually eliminate the constitutional system? Do they ever stop and think what they are actually starting in the country?"

[Belov] Zorkin thinks that fundamentalism is turning into the main and simply tragic danger, especially because the executive power—seeking to achieve an ideal constitution—drags the regions into the conflict.

[Zorkin] "Looking at you, my esteemed colleagues, at previous congresses—and I know many of you personally—I am getting an amazing and maybe euphoric impression that it might be the regions that will prevent the breakup of Russia after all. We pin all our hopes on you at present."

Yeltsin, Stepankov Discuss Law Enforcement Efforts

LD1205130693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1225 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] Moscow, 12 May (ITAR-TASS)—Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin today met with Procurator General Valentin Stepankov. As the president's press service announced, they discussed questions concerning the work of legal bodies. The president made a demand for rapid and impartial investigations into instances of corruption in the supreme echelons of power.

Stress was laid on the need to resolutely thwart attempts by individual political groups of an extremist persuasion to destabilize the situation in society by organizing provocatory disturbances on the streets.

Boris Yeltsin drew the procurator general's attention to the activity of a group of former people's deputies of the USSR who are engaged in political activity of a destructive and provocative form. The president voiced indignation at the fact that the procurator general's office does not react to numerous instances of provocative and law-breaking publications in a number of newspapers.

Valentin Stepankov informed Boris Yeltsin of the progress of the investigation into crimes in Ingushetia and North Ossetia.

Shakhray Addresses Regional Policy Roundtable

PM1105152193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 May 93 Single Edition p 3

[Unattributed report under the "Roundtable" rubric: "Regional Policy Discussed]

[Text] The fifth session of the "roundtable" for the elaboration of recommendations for anticrisis programs and the promotion of reforms was held on the evening of 7 May in the context of the implementation of Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Presidium and government decrees.

The session was opened by Supreme Soviet Deputy Chairman Vladimir Ispravnikov. He stressed the open

nature of the discussion and the participation in it of representatives of all branches of power and political parties and social organizations. And this is logical, since the goal of the roundtable is to achieve social and national consensus in the country and to search for rational and harmonious relations between the regions and the Center.

In his speech Sergey Shakhray, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, touched mainly on two factors. The basic components of Russia's regional policy, and the correlation of this policy and constitutional reform. In the opinion of the speaker, the three components of contemporary regional policy (economic reform, federalism, and broad local self-government), reduced to a single formula, could ensure Russia's political, socioeconomic, and legal development.

Taking part in the discussion were Deputies S. Baburin and A. Medvedev, M. Masarskiy, a representative of business circles, M. Maley, the president's adviser on conversion, and others. The idea of the need for clear definitions of basic principles was voiced. It is important, speakers noted, to approach the problem under discussion with open eyes, and to see the dual nature of the process—disintegration and integration, reducing the former to a minimum and supporting the latter.

Shakhray Involved in 'Incident' in Moscow

LD1105211993 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 2000 GMT 11 May 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The NEGA agency has just reported that there was an incident on Bolshoy Kamennyy Bridge in central Moscow this evening which involved the car of Russian Vice-Premier Shakhray. A white Fiat which was nearby suddenly sharply turned left and the vice premier's driver avoided an accident only by a miracle and managed to stay on the bridge. The Fiat disappeared from the accident site.

'Opposition' Said 'Aggravating' Political Situation

LD1205134793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1245 GMT 12 May 93

["Opposition Preparing Civil Disobedience Campaign"—ITAR- TASS headline; by ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow, 12 May—The opposition continues its line of aggravating the political situation in the country. This was demonstrated by today's meeting of the "Russia" parliamentary faction with journalists.

Opposition parliamentarians tried to get journalists to believe that since the referendum the president has embarked on "establishing a personal dictatorship." It is in this context that they interpret the work on the draft of the new constitution.

Thus, Nikolay Pavlov, coordinator of a faction of deputies, affirms that "the president has embarked on unconstitutional activities." He called yesterday's assembly in the Kremlin, where the draft of the new constitution was discussed, "a stage in a coup d'etat." Deputy Ivan Fedoseyev, who is a member of the Constitutional Commission of the Russian Federation, stated that the president's draft of the new Basic Law is "the road to despotism." In Pavlov's words, the opposition will soon promulgate a "plan of mobilization alert in case the president wishes once again to try to violate the Constitution."

Gaydar Cited on Possibility of Return

PM1105161593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 May 93 First Edition pp 1-2

[Mikhail Berger report: "Yegor Gaydar Has Not Received Any Official Offers"]

[Text] In recent days there has been very active discussion of the question of Yegor Gaydar's possible "second coming" in the Russian Government. This talk has been occasioned, above all, by the fact that the economic policy inspired by the ex-premier received support in the referendum—which means that the return of its inspirer would be perfectly logical.

In reply to a direct question as to why he refused to join the government Yegor Gaydar said that he received no official offers from those who form the cabinet, i.e. from the president or the premier. There really was an early return from a business trip, and there were discussions with like-minded people in the government who asked him not to reject an offer to return if one were made. That, in fact, is all. Therefore it was with some surprise, Gaydar said, that I learned of my refusal to join the government from a television broadcast. The president, who spoke of this, had probably been misled or misinformed about the results of the talks with me, which in actual fact did not take place.

"But what if such an offer had nonetheless been made?"

"This is a matter for discussion," Gaydar replied. "Everything depends on the policy the government intends to pursue. If it is the one which the Seventh Congress of People's Deputies rejected but which the voters supported, I am ready. If it is some other one and I am needed merely as a rubber stamp in order to convince someone that the reforms are proceeding, then this does not suit me."

Quite frankly, Gaydar said, the idea of returning to the government is not one of the prospects which I would consider most alluring today. But, on the other hand, it would be unforgivable not to take advantage of the extremely favorable political situation created by the referendum results—a situation that has never existed before, not even in the fall of 1991. But, I will repeat, at present I have nothing to discuss.

What Gaydar means, above all, by the favorable political background is the opportunity to continue privatization, which had practically come to a halt on the eve of the referendum. In Gaydar's opinion, its fate was hanging by a very thin thread, and many people were only waiting to see who would be "taken out" first: Chubays or his program? Such a taking out is impossible now politically, and this is the most important long-term political result of the referendum.

Gaydar believes that the results of the vote on the second question virtually gave carte blanche to complete the formation of the foundations of the market economy. This primarily means the stabilization of the national currency. A real opportunity has emerged for a consistent and smooth lowering of the rate of inflation—which in turn creates preconditions for production growth. It would also be possible to complete the process of liberalization in those sectors which it has not yet touched: oil, petroleum products, and coal. As regards gas and railroad shipments, it would be possible to introduce sliding prices there.

A sharp acceleration in privatization, strengthening of the national currency, and the creation of an open economy underpinned by hard currency—these, in Gaydar's opinion, are the opportunities created by the results of the vote.

But these results also carry serious risks. First, the political elite might wish to relax after the great exertion, not be in a hurry with reforms or to "take production in hand," and maybe give something back and pay the people a bit extra, as though in return for their support. In Gaydar's opinion, the temptation of the possibility of acting like this is based on illusory concepts of our economy's high degree of stability. Even though the rate of inflation has fallen recently, this does not give grounds for broad populist gestures. Starting in March, the budget has appeared very alarming, and without tough and decisive measures it could cause a new spiral of inflation.

The second area of risk is associated with possible attempts to use specific methods to restore the economy's manageability. It is a question not of manageability through control over the amounts of money in circulation and through other market regulators but of manageability through the restoration of distributive mechanisms which under present conditions, Gaydar believes, can become only a strong "chaos-forming" factor. New relationships have already begun to take root in the economy which will have to be broken again in order to restore distribution.

Gaydar believes that the most important struggle will develop over financial policy in the next two or three months. There is a perfectly obvious need to toughen financial policy, and we will see in the next few weeks whether or not this happens. The prices of energy sources can serve as an indicator here. If liberalization takes place here, then the government is on a realistic path. If an attempt is made to curb prices in this sector, serious interruptions in the supply of gasoline and other petroleum products will very soon begin. There will be a need to distribute them and, at the same time, to spend huge amounts on subsidizing their production. This in turn will spur inflation.

As regards the theoretical possibility of Gaydar's return, it is linked, apart from everything else, with a whole number of "technical" or, it would be better to say, subjective factors. As long as Boris Fedorov holds the post of vice premier and minister of finance, Yegor Gaydar's appearance in the cabinet is absurd. A vacancy for the person in the government responsible for the reform is possible only if Fedorov is transferred to the Central Bank.

In addition (and, maybe, primarily), Gaydar's return most likely does not suit Viktor Chernomyrdin, who, it has to be thought, foresees certain inconviences resulting from the appearance of his widely known former boss in his immediate entourage.

Of course, it is the question not of individuals but of the government's intentions that remains the chief issue. There have always been two wings in the cabinet itself both under Gaydar and now: supporters of market reform and advocates of the traditional—let us put it like this—school of economic management. The very existence of this internal conflict in the government attests that the top individuals [pervyye litsa] on whom cadre policy in the top echelon of power depends are themselves experiencing contradictory feelings and have not finally decided in which direction to move now.

Draft Law Outlines New System of State Awards

LD1105185793 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1800 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] A new country should have new awards. This is the essence of a draft law on state awards of the Russian Federation. When the Supreme Soviet Presidium was discussing it, it noted that the law not only outlines a new system of state awards, but also secures the legal basis for the awarding policy. In keeping with the Constitution, awards are being instituted by the Supreme Soviet and awarded by the president of Russia.

Yeltsin Signs Decree Founding State TV, Radio Company

LD1105160193 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1530 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin has signed a decree on an all-Russia state television and radio broadcasting company. In accordance with the document, the Council of Ministers is instructed, and it has been proposed to the workforce of the company and to the Russian Supreme Soviet, to act as co-founders of the state television and radio broadcasting company. The Russian Ministry of the Press and Information is

instructed to draw up a constituent contract within a month and to submit it for consideration and confirmation by the founders.

Law on Status of Russian Federation Capital

PM1105154393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 May 93 First Edition p 14

["Russian Federation Law 'On the Status of the Capital of the Russian Federation'"; dated 15 April 1993 and signed by Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin]

[Text] **Article 1. Capital of the Russian Federation**

In accordance with the Russian Federation Constitution, the city of Moscow is the capital of the Russian Federation. Federal organs of state power of the Russian Federation, missions of the republics in the Russian Federation, the autonomous oblast, autonomous okrugs, krays, and oblasts, and the city of St. Petersburg, and foreign states' diplomatic missions in the Russian Federation are located in the Russian Federation capital.

The territory of the city of Moscow is the territory of the Russian Federation capital.

Article 2. Concept of the Status of Russian Federation Capital

Russian Federation capital status implies the legal position of the city of Moscow governed by the particular rights and duties of federal organs of state power of the Russian Federation and organs of state power of the city of Moscow, as determined by the present law, in connection with Moscow's performance of the functions of Russian Federation capital.

Article 3. Legal Regulation of the Status of Russian Federation Capital

The status of Russian Federation capital in accordance with the Russian Federation Constitution is determined by the present law.

The federal organs of Russian Federation state power, on agreement with the organs of state power of the city of Moscow, can transfer to these organs the execution of some of their powers as defined by the present law. Organs of state power of the city of Moscow, on agreement with the federal organs of Russian Federation state power, can transfer to them the execution of some of their powers as defined by the present law.

Dealings between the federal organs of Russian Federation state power and organs of state power of the city of Moscow arising in connection with Moscow's performace of the functions of Russian Federation capital and not regulated by the present law are regulated by contracts concluded between the aforementioned organs.

Article 4. Powers of Organs of State Power of the City of Moscow in Connection with Moscow's Performance of the Functions of Russian Federation Capital

In connection with Moscow's performance of the functions of Russian Federation capital, the organs of state power of the city of Moscow:

will provide federal organs of Russian Federation state power, the missions of republics in the Russian Federation, the autonomous oblast, autonomous okrugs, krays, and oblasts, and the city of St. Petersburg, and also foreign states' diplomatic missions in the Russian Federation, in accordance with the legally established procedure, with land, buildings, structures, installations and premises, accommodations, utilities, transportation, and other services;

will ensure the requisite conditions for carrying out statewide and international measures;

will participate in the elaboration and implementation of specific federal programs for the development of the city of Moscow—capital of the Russian Federation;

will participate in the upkeep and development of communications systems, federal general-purpose highways and other transportation systems on the territory of the city of Moscow;

will agree on a draft master plan for the development of the city of Moscow with the federal organs of Russian Federation state power.

Article 5. Assistance From Organs of State Power in Moscow Oblast in the Performace by Moscow of the Functions of Russian Federation Capital

Organs of state power in Moscow Oblast will help Moscow perform the functions of Russian Federation capital by participating:

in the elaboration and implementation of targeted federal programs for the development of the city of Moscow—capital of the Russian Federation the impact of which extends to the territory of Moscow Oblast;

in the construction, reconstruction, and upkeep on the territory of the oblast of facilities required for Moscow's performance of the functions of Russian Federation capital in accordance with contracts concluded with organs of state power of the city of Moscow;

in the upkeep and development of communications systems, federal general-purpose highways and other transportation systems on the territory of Moscow Oblast connected with Moscow's performance of the functions of Russian Federation capital;

in the development of municipal facilities serving the common needs of Moscow and Moscow Oblast;

in carrying out joint nature-conservation measures in Moscow and Moscow Oblast.

Moscow Oblast's expenditure associated with helping Moscow perform the functions of capital of the Russian Federation will be compensated by subventions from the Russian Federation republic budget and by payments for oblast services made by federal organs of Russian Federation state power and by the relevant enterprises, institutions, and organizations.

Article 6. Compensation for Expenditure by the City of Moscow in Connection With Its Performace of the Functions of Russian Federation Capital

Moscow's expenditure associated with its performance of the functions of Russian Federation capital will be fully compensated by subventions from the Russian Federation republic budget and by payments for city services made by federal organs of Russian Federation state power, the missions of republics in the Russian Federation, the autonomous oblast, autonomous okrugs, krays, and oblasts, and the city of St. Petersburg, and also by foreign states' diplomatic missions in the Russian Federation.

Subventions from the Russian Federation republic budget for Moscow's performance of the functions of Russian Federation capital are allocated by a separate section in the Russian Federation republic budget in rubles and in hard currency.

Article 7. Special Features of the Long-Term Planning of the Development of the City of Moscow—Capital of the Russian Federation

The draft master plan for the development of the city of Moscow, devised by the Moscow city administration, will be agreed with the Russian Federation Government where it applies to Moscow's performance of the functions of Russian Federation capital and will be submitted for approval by Moscow City Soviet.

Any disputes arising over matters of long-term planning of the development of the city of Moscow will be resolved by conciliation commissions set up by interested organs of state power on the basis of parity.

Article 8. Ownership of Buildings, Structures, Installations, and Premises Occupied by Federal Bodies of Russian Federation State Power and of the Land on Which These Buildings, Structures, and Installations Are Situated

Buildings, structures, and installations on the territory of the city of Moscow and premises housing the supreme organs of Russian Federation legislative, executive, and judicial authority, the Russian Federation General Prosecutor's Office, the Russian Federation Central Bank, and the Russian Federation Pension Fund, and the land on which the aforementioned buildings, structures, and installations are situated, are federally owned by the Russian Federation.

Article 9. Special Features of the Granting of Land Owned by the City of Moscow to Federal Organs of Russian Federation State Power

Land owned by the city of Moscow will be provided by organs of state power of the city of Moscow to accommodate the buildings, structures, and installations necessary for the execution of powers by federal organs of state power of the Russian Federation, in accordance with a list drawn up by the Russian Federation Government. In accordance with the established procedure, the aforementioned land is acquired by federal organs of Russian Federation state power and becomes Russian Federation federal property or is leased to them in accordance with the General Plan for the Development of the City of Moscow and programs for the development of individual city areas.

Article 10. The Leasing of Buildings, Structures, Installations, and Premises Owned by the City of Moscow to Federal Organs of Russian Federation State Power, to the Missions of Members of the Russian Federation, and Also to Foreign States' Missions in the Russian Federation

Buildings, structures, installations, and premises owned by the city of Moscow are leased by organs of state power of the city of Moscow to federal organs of Russian Federation state power and to the missions of republics of the Russian Federation, the autonomous oblast, autonomous okrugs, krays, and oblasts, and the city of St. Petersburg in accordance with the procedure established by Russian Federation legislation.

The same procedure is followed for leasing buildings, structures, installations, and premises owned by the city of Moscow to foreign states' diplomatic missions in the Russian Federation, unless Russian Federation international treaties state otherwise. In matters pertaining to the leasing of the aforementioned buildings, structures, installations, and premises, the interests of foreign states' diplomatic missions in the Russian Federation in their dealings with organs of state power of the city of Moscow are represented by organs authorized by the Russian Federation Government.

Article 11. Special Features of the Holding of Rallies, Meetings, Marches, Processions, Pickets, and Demonstrations in the City of Moscow—Capital of the Russian Federation

The holding of rallies, meetings, marches, processions, pickets, and demonstrations in the city of Moscow—capital of the Russian Federation is prohibited in areas directly adjacent to buildings occupied by the supreme organs of Russian Federation legislative, executive, and judicial power. The boundaries of the aforementioned areas are established by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet by agreement with these organs and the organs of state power of the city of Moscow.

Article 12. Special Features of the Adoption and Amendment of the Charter [Ustav] of the City of Moscow—Capital of the Russian Federation

The Charter of the city of Moscow—capital of the Russian Federation is adopted by Moscow City Soviet. The draft charter, as it applies to Moscow's performance of its functions as capital of the Russian Federation, is agreed with the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet and Russian Federation president. The procedure for this agreement process is laid down by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet. Amendments and additions are made to the Charter in accordance with the same procedure.

The establishment and alteration of the structure of the administration of the city of Moscow and of the competence of its structural subunits are effected by Moscow City Soviet at the request of the Moscow city administration.

Article 13. Special Features of the Territorial Division of the City of Moscow

The territory of the city of Moscow may incorporate the territories of the rayons in the city (municipal rayons) and of other territorial-administrative units, and also the intracity territories of the administrative government [vnutrigorodskiye territorii administrativnogo upravleniya].

The legal position of the aforementioned territorial-administrative units and territories is regulated by the Charter of the city of Moscow.

[Signed] President of the Russian Federation B. Yeltsin
[Dated] Moscow, House of Soviets of Russia; 15 April 1993

No. 4802-1

Government Examines Amendments to Land Lease Law

PM1205085793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 May 93 First Edition pp 1-2

[Yelena Yakovleva report: "Russian Government Firmly Intends To Move Toward a Market for Land"]

[Text] IZVESTIYA has already reported that the Russian Council of Ministers Presidium has examined the issue of amendments and additions to the Russian Federation Law "On Payment for Land." Following the Presidium session, Nikolay Komov, chairman of the Committee for Land Resources and Land Management, met with journalists and commented on the new points.

The Law "On Payment for Land" which has been in force up to the present time, he said, could be more accurately described as a law "on nonpayment for land" since it stipulates an enormous number of exceptions and restrictions.

Right now a new Russian land register is being formulated as well as documents on purchasing and selling land, and the Supreme Soviet intends to examine the "Basic Principles of Land Legislation" at its second reading in May.

The additions and amendments made to the Law "On Payment for Land" at the Council of Ministers Presidium session also constitute a major step in the direction of a market for land. The main amendment is as follows: The previous law specified a limitation on the amount payable for leasing land, which was not to exceed the top rate of land tax. Now, however, there are no restrictions on land lease payments. The amount is to be fixed exclusively by contract between lessee and lessor. The format of the contract is to be made official and registered at committees for land resources and land management, but the lease payment is contractual.

The only major but essential restriction on the lessee's freedom concerns the use of land for its specified purpose. If you lease arable land, you can only use it for agricultural purposes; you may not build a plant, campsite, or anything else on it.

Freedom of land lease payments should raise new funds for local budgets. The Committee for Land Resources and Land Management is also hoping to set up nonbudgetary federal and territorial funds where money received from lease payments for city land will accumulate and be spent on preserving and increasing the fertility of the soil.

The amendments that have been made also open up enormous opportunities for an influx of foreign investment. There are nonagricultural areas of land around Moscow today that are suitable for some other use, and there are many foreign citizens and companies wishing to lease these areas on a long-term basis.

Lease payments for certain areas around Moscow can reach $1,000 per square meter. In the poorest area of Beijing, Komov says, lease payments can be as much as $5,000 per square meter.

Of course, freedom of land lease payment will decrease the opportunities for land use by low-income sections of the population, particularly around the big cities. But on the other hand the money earned by leasing out land can be spent on building houses and dachas for invalids, Chernobyl casualties, and servicemen discharged into the reserve, as well as other social needs.

The right to lease out land at contract price is also extended to citizens. A private farmer may lease his land to a neighbor or even to a foreign citizen on condition that the land is used for its specified purpose.

Defense Ministry Briefing Notes Restructuring Efforts

LD1105220293 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 2000 GMT 11 May 93

[By Igor Krondo; captioned "Military TV"; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A briefing of representatives of the Defense Ministry of the Russian Federation for foreign military diplomats accredited in Moscow was held in the Central House of the [Russian] Army today. During the meeting they were told about progress in restructuring [stroitelstvo] Russian Armed Forces. In particular, note of new approaches toward assessing a threat to world stability, toward defending Russian national interests, and revision of views regarding a possible nature and scale of military conflicts, all with great impact on armed forces restructuring, were discussed.

The military diplomats demonstrated great interest in the information about mobile forces. Replying to their questions, Major General Lato stressed that first and foremost the reduced strength of the armed forces had been the reason for creating the mobile forces. Russia will not be able to have large troop groupings along all its borders. The availability of highly mobile forces, consisting of units of ground and air defense troops, and combat and military- transport aviation, will make it possible to react urgently to any situation along any Russian external borders.

Summing up the results of the meeting, Maj Gen Vyacheslav Stolbunov noted: Russia is a great power and we have everything so that it should occupy a worthy place in the world community. The main thing is that we have a desire to live in peace with all countries.

Six Satellites Launched on Tsiklon Carrier 11 May

LD1205093193 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0900 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] Yesterday six artificial Earth satellites were launched from the Plesetsk cosmodrome. All the satellites were put into orbit on a single Tsiklon rocket carrier. The satellites are equipped with scientific apparatus intended to further space research.

Supreme Soviet

Presidium Meets 11 May; Proceedings Summarized

LD1105180693 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1430 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] A session of the Presidium of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet took place today. Our parliamentary correspondent Aleksandr Ruvinskiy reports on it:

[Ruvinskiy] This sitting, unlike many previous ones, took place without any kind of political excesses. What is more, representatives of the major mass media were once again allowed to attend it, and to all appearances a good tradition has been continued. The session started with remarks by Supreme Soviet Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov on the holidays that have just passed.

[Begin Khasbulatov recording] Esteemed colleagues, I first want to thank all the authorities, the city authorities, Moscow soviet, the deputies, and the Moscow militia for conducting the Victory Day holiday so well. It did indeed turn out to be a holiday, and the Supreme Soviet provided for this holiday to be observed normally from a political point of view. Naturally, this is indirectly a serious achievement for us, all the more so after the tragic events of 1 May. We thank you in a heartfelt manner and are grateful to you and to our colleagues in Moscow soviet, the city authorities, and the Moscow militia. [end recording]

[Ruvinskiy] They then went on to discuss draft laws, those that are to be submitted for examination by the committees and commissions and at the plenary session this week. Among the most important I would mention the document on the notification of the payment of pensions to Russian citizens who go and live abroad. This serious problem will now be sorted out. The law on state awards of Russia has long awaited its turn and will evidently be adopted. The following question immediately arose: A two-headed eagle is depicted on many of the awards, but the congress rejected the symbol as a state symbol. Now a compromise has to be found. So the deputies drew attention to the need to find a place for the present system of awards and for the awards of the former USSR.

The issue of a fifth channel in St. Petersburg was of a confrontational nature. The issue was inaugurated by the president in a decree on 9 April. Lysin, chairman of the committee for the mass media, which essentially does not exist today, proposed appealing against the presidential decree in the Constitutional Court and suspending its force for the moment. It turned out, however, that the St. Petersburg channel had not been confirmed by the Russian Supreme Soviet of Russia. In general this is not yet a subject for dispute. The lawyers will still have to get to the bottom of it.

I also think that the focal point of attention for the deputies this week will be the Russian Constitution. Representatives of the subjects of the Federation will assemble in parliament tomorrow to officially discuss the draft from the Supreme Soviet, but the president, together with his constitutional command, are accelerating the adoption of the constitution as well.

Presidium Decisions Viewed

LD1105181593 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 11 May 93

[Report by correspondent M. Lillevyali, from the "Vesit" newscast]

[Text] Ruslan Khasbulatov started today's sitting of the Supreme Soviet Presidium with words of gratitude to Russian people's deputies and the Mossovet for maintaining order during the celebrations of 9 May. The development of the political process should not be accompanied by what we observed on May Day, Khasbulatov stressed.

The Supreme Soviet Presidium adopted a decision on marking the 50th anniversary of the victory in the Battle of Kursk as a nationwide holiday. A special committee with Nikolay Ryabov and Yuriy Yarov at its head has been set up for preparing and holding festive events. The festivities will be held in Kursk, Belgorod, and Orel Oblasts 4-5 August.

Today's sitting of the Presidium also discussed the violation of the law on mass media by the president and compensation to Russian Federation people's deputies in connection with their carrying out their activities as deputies.

Constitutional Commission Meets on Draft Constitution

LD1105162893 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 11 May 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] A sitting of the Constitutional Commission working group took place at the Supreme Soviet today. According to Oleg Rumyantsev, secretary in charge, consensus has been reached on how to avert a situation in which there are two constitutions. The work will be underpinned by the draft constitution endorsed by the Sixth Congress of People's Deputies. It has been decided to make use of some provisions of the presidential draft in the course of putting the finishing touches to this draft. On 25 May the Supreme Soviet will discuss the main provisions of the constitutions and the procedure for adopting it. Oleg Rumyantsev hopes that the Constitutional Assembly and the president will play a positive role on 1 June; in his view, drafts of constitutional provisions should be agreed on that date and the text of the constitution should be further elaborated on the same day.

Regional Affairs

Official Visit, Situation in North Caucasus Viewed

MK1105122093 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 11 May 93 p 9

[Oleg Medvedev report: "Chernomyrdin in North Caucasus. Federal Authorities Concerned Over Situation in the Region"]

[Text] The North Caucasus region has the highest conflict potential in Russia: economic, political, and ethnic contradictions have been tightly knotted here. It is for this reason that the federal authorities have been paying so close attention to the North Caucasus. Yesterday, three high-ranking Russian officials at one time—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin; Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray, who is also chairman of the State Committee for Nationalities and the Federation; and Ramazan Abdulatipov, Russian Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities chairman, set out for the North Caucasus for a three-day visit. It is noteworthy that the trip—judging at least from the makeup of the mission—offers an example of cooperation between the executive and legislative branches, which is so rare nowadays, in an attempt to resolve a problem of national importance. KOMMERSANT-DAILY will provide daily updates on the trip.

The trip of the Russian leaders to the region has begun with what may be considered the most difficult part—Ingushetia and North Ossetia. Viktor Chernomyrdin has promised the Ingush to help them create their own state, revive their economy, and allocate funds to finance specific projects and targeted programs. Ingush Prime Minister Ruslan Tatiyev called on the federal government to appropriate 60 billion rubles at the level prices of the fourth quarter of 1992 and $10 million this year.

According to official reports, the unemployed account for 56 percent of Ingushetia's able-bodied population. The slump in production reached 61 percent in 1992. Prices in Ingushetia are 30 to 40 percent lower than in neighboring Vladikavkaz and Groznyy, the capital of Chechnya.

However, the financial problem, albeit important, is not the most urgent issue in Ingushetia. The Ingush would like to get from the center something greater than financial injections, namely, moral and political support in arranging the return of Ingush refugees to Prigorodnyy Rayon of North Ossetia, who fled during last year's Ossetian-Ingush conflict. At present, there are 64,000 refugees who were forced to leave North Ossetia.

Last March, an agreement on the return of the Ingush refugees to their homes in Prigorodnyy Rayon was negotiated at the Ossetian-Ingush talks in Kislovodsk, attended by the federal authorities. This agreement, however, has never been implemented. The Ingush who returned to their homeland on their own, Ingush Vice President Boris Agapov said, "have been subjected to intolerable living conditions: Their homes are being fired upon by automatic weapons and grenade launchers, or set on fire."

Hence, it was not by chance that the Ingush leaders demanded yesterday that the federal authorities create "normal conditions for all the people" in Prigorodnyy Rayon of North Ossetia. In North Ossetia proper there is serious opposition to the return of the Ingush to the contested Prigorodnyy Rayon. A proposal was made for a referendum to be held on that question among the Ossetians.

The existence of two warring components in the Federation puts the federal authorities in a delicate position: A concession to one side may be immediately judged to be a flagrant injustice. This is why it would be naive to think that a trip to the region by Russian leaders, however high their rank might be, may produce solutions to all the problems, those involving the Ossetians and Ingush in particular and the North Caucasus in general.

Many problems facing the region have been caused by objective factors or inherited from the Soviet Union. The numerous migrations and conquests, to which the Caucasus have been subjected for ages, have been responsible for the current extremely diverse ethnic

makeup: Around 50 "native" peoples living here in an ethnic patchwork belong to different language groups and even language families, world religions, and races. This diversity is compounded by the problems born out of the process of conquering the Caucasus in the last century and by ill-conceived nationalities policies in the USSR. In pre-revolutionary Russia, entire peoples had the status of "the guilty population," and in the USSR they were declared "traitors of the Motherland" and deported.

The region had been carved up into administrative units without due respect for ethnic differences. There was a strict hierarchy there that distinguished between the peoples that had autonomy, titular peoples of the autonomies, second titular peoples, peoples without autonomy, and so forth. It is the reestablishment of some of the rights that had been infringed upon at that time that is the linchpin of many popular movements in the Northern Caucasus.

For this reason, the North Caucasus is one of the most conflict-prone regions of the Russian Federation. According to experts from a special interdepartmental commission of the Russian Security Council, the bottom line of the heightening tensions is the competition for the redistribution of resources—land, production capacities, and financial sources—that is manifest in various movements of the region's peoples struggling for their national self-determination: from movements to rehabilitate the repressed peoples or to enhance the status of their people in the national-state hierarchy, to those aiming to break this or that territory away from Russia.

The consequences of all this have given rise to serious problems that have yet to be resolved by the current Russian leadership.

[Article includes the following boxed passage]

Some indicators of the economic situation in the North Caucasus republics (according to the specialized interregional commission of the Russian Security Council)

—If compared with the economic capacity of Rostov Oblast taken as 1, the economic capacity of Chechnya was 0.38 in 1992; Dagestan, 0.47; Kabardino-Balkaria, 0.53; Adygeya, 0.54; North Ossetia, 0.59; and Karachayevo-Cherkessia, 0.61.

—Chechnya, Ingushetia, and Dagestan also lag behind in terms of the living standards of the population: The corresponding coefficients are 0.54 and 0.62 respectively [only two figures for three regions, as published] if compared with Rostov Oblast.

—All the republics of the North Caucasus are far behind Krasnodar Kray, Stavropol Kray, and Rostov Oblast in terms of per capita state investment.

—The possible privatization of land is fraught with serious problems: Small-sized land plots typical of mountainous areas, traditions of joint use of pasture lands, and numerous territorial and land disputes may color the competition during the redistribution of land in ethnic hues.

Chernomyrdin Promises Troops, Justice

LD1105174493 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 11 May 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Viktor Chernomyrdin said at a meeting with North Ossetian elders and leaders that additional military formations would be sent to this region in order to stabilize the situation. He also promised that all those guilty of fanning strife would be punished by law.

Chernomyrdin Concludes Visit

LD1105204993 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1800 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] The Russian delegation led by Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin has ended its working tour of the North Caucasus with a visit to Makhachkala. Besides economic problems which were touched upon by the Dagestan authorities, a situation which has formed on the republic's border with Azerbaijan was also discussed.

Prior to this, Viktor Chernomyrdin held a conference with the leadership of Kabardino-Balkaria and chaired a sitting of the North Caucasian coordinating council in Nalchik.

Ingushetia Representative Kostoyev Hands in Resignation

PM1105142393 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 8 May 93 p 2

[Sergey Karkhanin report: "Language of Ultimatums. Situation Remains Uneasy in Ossetian-Ingush Conflict Zone"]

[Text] Spring has not brought peace to the Ossetian-Ingush conflict zone. And although exchanges of fire are rare, the refugees who risk returning to their homes still have to fear for their lives. The seat of tension has not been eliminated; it is smoldering under the ashes of the burned-out villages.

Aleksandr Khodov, secretary of the North Ossetia Security Council, attributes this tense situation to the following circumstances: The exchange of hostages is not being carried out, the local inhabitants have collected a great many weapons, and gangs are operating in the villages, terrorizing the peasants.

Aleksandr Khodov believes that the tension will persist until the refugees are able to return to their homes. In order to ensure security for civilians, he believes, clear cooperation must be established between the local organs of power and subunits of the Russian peacekeeping forces.

Meanwhile, Isa Kostoyev, the Russian president's representative in Ingushetia, has handed in his resignation to the Russian Federation leadership. In a report attached to the statement he recalls that the Russian parliament adopted the law on the formation of the Ingush Republic without having done any careful work on it, while the idea of federal rule in the disputed Prigorodnyy Rayon, which could effectively solve the refugee problem, is still not being put into effect. Each refugee has only received 1,800 rubles' worth of aid from the state in five months. Isa Kostoyev writes that he cannot carry out his official duties properly in such conditions.

One of the reasons for the new spiral of tension was a recent incident in the village of Oktyabrskoye, where Ossetian gunmen demanded that the representatives of the Russian General Prosecutor's Office investigation group immediately release several criminals detained during a weapons-confiscation operation. If they refused, the gunmen intended to kill a group of Ingush refugees—women and children—seized in a bus bound for one of the villages. Fearing for the lives of the hostages, the leader of the operation was forced to obey the gunmen. Clearly, such cases do not promote stability in the region.

It was no coincidence that President Ruslan Aushev of Ingushetia sent a letter to Russian President Boris Yeltsin in which he wrote: "I demand that one of the top leaders of the Russian Federation come to the republic immediately in order to make a thorough study of the state of affairs in and around the Ingush Republic, adopt urgent measures on the implementation of leadership's decisions, decrees, and edicts, and Russian laws, solve the refugee problem, and, while the situation is still controllable, avert a new interethnic conflict."

Ossetia, Ingush Sides Accuse Each Other of Arms Supply

LD1105215993 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 2130 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] The Ossetian and Ingushetian sides are accusing each other of supplying weapons to the region of conflict. Mamed Ugurchiyev, press secretary of the permanent mission of the Ingush Republic under the Russian Federation president, told POSTFACTUM that according to reliable sources large consignments of armored equipment and small arms have been delivered to North Ossetia. In its turn, the press service of the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet denied this report and said that such statements are circulated to justify deliveries of weapons to the Ingush Republic from Chechnya.

Court Supports Okrug's Entry Into Federation

LD1205042293 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0100 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] The Russian Constitutional Court decided on Tuesday [11 May] that the law on Chukotka Autonomous Okrug becoming a direct subject of the Russian Federation was consistent with the constitution. The constitutionality of this law was being disputed by Magadan Oblast soviet and one of the Russian people's deputies. Prior to this, Chukotka Autonomous Okrug was part of Magadan Oblast. This decision of the Constitutional Court is its first verdict concerning relations between the subjects of the Russian Federation.

Komi Public Committee To Organize Early Elections

LD1105151493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1401 GMT 11 May 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Makarov]

[Text] Syktyvkar May 11 TASS—A Komi public committee has been set up to prepare and organize early elections of all power bodies in the republic.

The committee was created by representatives of various public movements. In their opinion, the April 25 referendum has proved the ripen need for early elections. Still, this should be done under the new Russian and Komi Constitutions and new laws on elections.

Public movement representatives demanded the adoption of fundamental laws and the law on elections no later than in September, 1993, to begin early elections in December.

Co-chairman of the Syktyvkar Democratic Russia organization Igor Farafontov told ITAR-TASS, the Association of Republican Democratic Organizations plans active participation in the elaboration and adoption of the new Russian and Komi Constitutions and new laws on elections. Working groups will soon be set up to study public opinion, collect and prepare proposals on the new laws.

Cossack Leader Reacts 'Negatively' to Yeltsin Edict

PM1105134193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 May 93 Single Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "What Should Cossacks Fear?"]

[Text] Musa Shanibov, president of the Confederation of Cossack Peoples, has reacted negatively to Russian President Boris Yeltsin's recent edict on state support for Cossacks.

He stated that "the major part of the president's edict is devoted exclusively to incorporating Cossacks in the state power structures," and recalled that even Don Hetman Vasiliy Kaledin realizes that "the most terrible thing that could happen to the Cossacks is to be used as 'gendarmerie batons.'"

International Affairs

Talbott Notes Progress in Relations With Ukraine

WS1205084493 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1422 GMT 10 May 93

[Text] Kiev, 10 May—The two-day visit in Ukraine by a U.S. delegation headed by U.S. ambassador at large, Strobe Talbott, was concluded with press conference held at the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry press center. The U.S. delegation included Ms. Tobi Gati, managing director of the National Security Council; Admiral William Studeman, CIA deputy director; Brigadier General James Reilly; Graham Allison, U.S. Assistant Defense Secretary; and others. The composition of the delegation points to its significance. Some observers, however, noted that none of the Ukrainian officials met the delegation on the day of its arrival.

At the press conference, Strobe Talbott said he had a 40-minute conversation with the Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk. Mr. Talbott delivered a letter from the U.S. President Bill Clinton which says the United States is intent on expanding bilateral relations with Ukraine. An agreement was reached with President Kravchuk to create a U.S.-Ukrainian charter that will determine relations between Ukraine and the United States.

The delegation members met with Ukrainian Defense Minister Morozov, Vice Prime Minister Pynzennyk, Supreme Council Deputy Chairman Durdynets, and Foreign Minister Zlenko.

"The visit shows that Ukraine and the U.S. have turned over a new page in their mutual relations," summarized U.S. Ambassador-at-Large Strobe Talbott.

While answering questions, the ambassador declared that a preliminary agreement had been reached on a number of issues. Ukraine has accepted the idea of establishing a committee on military issues and a military conversion group.

Borys Tarasyuk, Ukrainian deputy foreign minister, said that since the two sides agreed that their present mutual relations were unsatisfactory, some steps were considered that could alter the situation.

Concluding the press conference, Strobe Talbott noted that he had received confirmation that Ukraine will fulfill its international commitments as regards the nonnuclear status. He emphasized, however, that this is not the only field of our cooperation.

Ambassador Returns From Balkan Tour

LD1105124593 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 10 May 93

[Text] A delegation from the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, headed by ambasssador at large, Andriy Ozadovskyy, returned to Kiev from a trip to a number of Balkan countries on 10 May. The delegation was received by Croatian President [Franjo] Tudjman, Slovene Deputy Premier [Lojze] Peterle, and [Svetozar] Stojanovic, chief adviser to the president of the FRY for foreign policy issues.

They all noted Ukraine's growing role in European matters, and in particular in current international relations in the central, eastern, and southern European regions, and Ukraine's active participation in UN peacekeeping operations.

Our ambassador had consultations with the leaders of the foreign ministries of the Balkan countries on issues of searching for ways of regulating the armed conflict on the territory of former Yugoslavia, and on steadfast adherence to UN Security Council sanctions regarding the FRY.

During the talks the attention of the leaders of these government establishments was drawn to the need to ensure the rights of Ukrainian minorities in the republics of former Yugoslavia.

Views Yugoslav Conflict Settlement

LD1105184393 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] A briefing took place at the Ukraine Foreign Ministry today for Ukrainian and foreign journalists. Ambassador at large, Andriy Ozadovskyy, attended the briefing; he headed the delegation of Ukraine's Foreign Ministry which recently returned from a trip to a number of Balkan countries. In particular, the ambassador told the journalists that during consultations with the leaders of the Balkan countries the delegation informed them in detail about the stand of Ukraine concerning the settlement of the Balkan conflict. Among the principles upon which this stand rests, Andriy Ozadovskyy mentioned in particular the settlement of conflicts by peaceful political means only; respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, and inviolability of the borders; and state independence of all the former subjects of Yugoslavia.

Foreign Ministry Protests Human Rights Violations in Yugoslavia

AU1105145593 Lviv ZA VILNU UKRAYINU in Ukrainian 6 May 93 p 1

["Statement by Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs About the Situation of Ukrainians on the Territory of Former Yugoslavia" issued in Kiev; date not given]

[Text] The development of the events in former Yugoslavia continues to be a matter of concern in Ukraine. Facts collected by long-term CSCE missions and by a special representative of the UN Commission for Human Rights indicate that serious violations of human rights in the zone of conflict have assumed an uncontrolled and mass character.

Ukraine cannot reconcile itself to the fact that the rights of about 60,000 ethnic Ukrainians whose fathers settled in the Balkan region several centuries ago are being

blatantly violated. Hundreds of civilians of Ukrainian origin have been thrown into concentration camps and evicted from their homes. Ukrainian churches, monasteries, schools, and libraries have been destroyed and the settlements and farms of the exiled people have been robbed. Tens of thousands of Ukrainians (Greek Catholics) are being persecuted for their faith.

It is difficult to believe that all of this is taking place in our time, in Europe, and before the very eyes of the entire civilized world.

The efforts of the international community to search for ways of settling the conflict and providing humanitarian assistance for its innocent victims are highly appreciated in Ukraine. Ukraine, unable to remain indifferent to the distress and suffering of the civilian population, is taking an active part in these measures. The Ukrainian battalion within the UN peace-keeping forces that has already suffered—in terms of killed and wounded soldiers—is providing conditions for giving the necessary assistance to the population. We have stated our support for Resolution 757 of the UN Security Council on measures with regard to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

Blatant violations of the human rights of the Ukrainian minority in former Yugoslavia were pointed out in Ukraine's appeal to the appropriate international organizations and their bodies, in particular, the UN Center for Human Rights, the committee of senior CSCE officials, and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Ukraine calls upon the warring sides to stop military actions and urgently demands that the authorities of the countries that have emerged on the territory of former Yugoslavia ensure strict adherence to all effective international agreements on questions of human rights and the rights of ethnic minorities.

Defense Minister on Black Sea Dispute, Nuclear Weapons

LD1105141793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1400 GMT 11 May 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Nekrasova]

[Text] Lvov May 11 TASS—Problems of building up the Ukrainian Army and the Russo-Ukrainian dispute over the Black Sea Navy and nuclear weapons on Ukrainian territory were discussed yesterday by representatives of local public circles with Ukrainian Defence Minister Kostantin Morozov in the course of the traditional "Zankovetskie soirees", held at the local theatre. Morozov came here to meet people's deputies, representatives of the local authorities, businessmen and clergymen.

"The stand of our Defence Ministry remains unchanged," Colonel- General Konstantin Morozov stated. "Ukraine is a large maritime nation, which is endeavouring to make full use of the transitional period, imposed upon us by the Yalta Agreement with Russia on the division of the Black Sea Navy. We are helping our neighbour to form his own group of warships on the Black Sea. The question does not boil down merely to warships. It involves the use of Ukrainian land. I cannot imagine what treaty can sanction the transfer, let us say, of Lvov, Kharkov, Chernigov or Sevastopol to another state. I believe the crux of the matter are not ships, but the political presence of foreign servicemen on our territory. This is why we are endeavouring to get the Russian part of the Black Sea Navy, every Russian warship and sailor, pulled out of Ukraine."

"Nuclear weapons on Ukrainian territory are an equally painful and disputable problem. Their presence is an unquestionably containing factor," the minister said. "But since we have such weapons, we shall not agree to their maintenance and upkeep by other states. Moreover, they are worth absolutely nothing if we have no corresponding scientific and production facilities of our own. If our Supreme Soviet ratifies the START-1 treaty and the Lisbon Protocol to it, we shall have no problems with dismantling these deadly weapons. It is only a matter of time. But such a decision will be taken only when Ukraine gets the right to own the dismantled materials. It will be detrimental to our independent state, if we give up nuclear warheads free of charge only to buy fuel for Ukrainian power plants from Russia for world prices."

Plyushch Talks With Iran Security Official

LD1105195993 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] The delegation of Ukraine's Supreme Council, headed by Ivan Plyushch, is continuing its stay in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Iran is ready to come out as a mediator in the cause of stopping the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. This was stated on Tuesday by Hasan Rowhani, secretary of the Supreme Council of National Security of Iran and deputy chairman of the Iranian parliament, at a meeting with Ivan Plyushch, chairman of the Supreme Council of Ukraine. Rowhani confirmed that Iran considers it impossible to solve the Karabakh issue by military means.

Touching on Iranian-Ukrainian relations, he recalled the obligations assumed by Ukraine concerning the transit of Iranian natural gas to Europe. This agreement, achieved between Tehran, Kiev, and Baku, must be implemented, Rowhani pointed out.

Previously Ivan Plyushch held the first round of negotiations with 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri, chairman of the Iranian parliament, during which Plyushch confirmed

Ukraine's loyalty to the agreements earlier achieved and expressed Kiev's readiness to expand all-round relations with Tehran. In particular, Ukraine is ready to send its specialists to Iran with the aim of developing technical cooperation.

Party Leader on Conditions for Ratifying START I

LD1105160093 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] The START I Treaty and the Lisbon Protocol could be ratified by the Supreme Council of Ukraine, provided the Western states meet such conditions as guaranteeing security and providing financial and other assistance to our country. This was announced in Warsaw by Vitaliy Zhuravskyy, chairman of the Christian Democratic Party of Ukraine [CDPU]. He is taking part in the conference of the European Democratic Union. The CDPU leader also stressed that Ukraine must adhere to the policy of consistent and balanced reduction and elimination of all kinds of nuclear arms, but it must tackle this problem proceeding from its own national interests.

Morozov Bans Servicemen's Contacts With Russian Chauvinists

AU1005135193 Kiev MOLOD UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 7 May 93 p 1

[Statement by the Defense Ministry Press Service in Kiev; date not given: "The Minister Cautions"]

[Text] In order to rule out an uncontrolled development of events with possible tragic consequences, as happened in Moscow on 1 May, Ukraine's minister of defense, Colonel General Kostyantyn Morozov, issued a directive to the commanders of the Black Sea Fleet, Ukraine's Naval Forces, and troops of the Odessa Military District to prevent groups of chauvinistically minded people's deputies of the Russian Federation, or other persons with extremist views, from entering the territories of military units and institutions. As has become known, they are planning to arrive in the Crimea, from Russia, on 7 May 1993.

The Ukrainian minister of defense's order forbids contact between servicemen and the aforementioned group or its representatives; those officers who violate this demand will be dismissed from the army.

Kazakhstan

Government Reacts to Introduction of Kyrgyz Currency

LD1105102093 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0800 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] The Government of Kazakhstan is taking measures as a result of the introduction of a national currency in Kyrgyzstan. According to Daulet Sembayev, first deputy prime minister of the republic, noncash payments between enterprises in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan have been stopped as from today, and restrictions on the free import and export of cash have been tightened: they have been set at 100,000 rubles. These measures will make it possible to limit possible inflation and price rises in Kazakhstan.

Nazarbayev Talks With Indian Ambassador

LD1005193993 Almaty KAZTAG in Russian 1300 GMT 10 May 93

[Text] [no dateline as received] President Nursultan Nazarbayev has received Kamlesh Sharma, Indian ambassador to Kazakhstan. During the conversation they spoke about the situation and prospects in stepping up cooperation between Kazakhstan and India. The sides noted the successful development of contacts and expressed their mutual aspiration to use every means to promote their further expansion.

Nursultan Nazarbayev emphasized the efforts being made to implement the existing inter-governmental documents. He set out his view on the priority trends in the partnership of the two countries. The president thinks that the work of the mixed commission on trade- economic and scientific-technical cooperation is of great importance in this respect.

It was noted during the talks that the forthcoming official visit of Indian Prime Minister Narashima Rao to Kazakhstan will undoubtedly invigorate Kazakhstan-Indian relations.

Nazarbayev Addresses Ideological Conference

LD1105124693 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0600 GMT 11 May 93

[Excerpts] Today a conference on state ideological activity is under way at the presidential residence. Taking part in its work are President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Vice President Yerik Asanbayev, Chairman of the Supreme Kenges of the Republic Serikbolsyn Abdildin, Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko, heads of oblast administrations, people's deputies, [words indistinct] political scientists, military commanders, leaders of public organizations and movements, and the representatives [words indistinct]. Here is our special correspondent, Lidiya Nazarova, who has just came from the residence and prepared an up-to-the-minute commentary on the conference.

[Nazarova] I have made use of the break in the work of the conference so as to tell you about it live. I will start with the report by what he called consolidation, public progress and social (?laws).

The president dedicated the first part of his report to the issues of ideology. He noted that with the break-up of the USSR and collapse of the communist ideology for a certain period of time we had an ideological vacuum. It couldn't go on like that for any longer, and for that reason life was not always filled with the best kind of ideology.

According to the president, a new ideological concept is needed with civil peace and national accord being the basis of it.

In this regard the president said that the activities of national and cultural centers in the republic should be provided with all possible support. [passage indistinct]

[Announcer] Was there any discussion of languages?

[Nazarova] Yes, certainly this discussion took place. [passage indistinct] He spoke about the idea of Kazakh patriotism, that it is essential to instil pride in our republic.

Of course, these words of his found enormous support in the hall, because what he was talking about are the things by which we must live, and this measure of concord [passage indistinct]

The second part of the president's report was devoted to the economy, to economic questions. As for questions of what sort of society [words indistinct] capitalist or socialist, this was discussed. It should be a society which is based on the rule of law. It should be a society which is socially oriented toward people and, as a result of that, all reforms being carried out should take account precisely of this. [passage indistinct]

The national privatization program is also undergoing some changes. It now being worked on, amended and improved. And although at the beinning of his report the president said that it is not of a directive nature, it dealt with most important, [?vital] issues of our life. [passage indistinct].

As for foreign policy [words indistinct] cooperation with Russia and other friendly CIS states, and as for foreign economic relations with countries of Asia and Europe, he also ascribes very great significance to this and in questions of the economy prime importance is attributed to [word indistinct] of foreign firms.

Incidentally, he emphasized the enormous importance of the Chevron oil company [word indistinct], the presentation of the Deutsche Bank in Almaty, and in all this one sees just progress and advancement.

Tajikistan

Opposition Forces Said To Enter From Afghanistan

LD1205040893 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0300 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] In the south of Tajikistan, Russian border troops and the republic's own armed formations have bottled up a detachment of opposition forces that has crossed the border with Afghanistan. A correspondent of the NEGA agency learned this from Tajikistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. There are about 400 fighters in the detachment, which is well provided with weapons and ammunition. According to the Tajik Foreign Ministry, the opposition supporters are confined in a gorge near the border, though some of them have managed to fight their way back to Afghanistan.

Authorities Seize 'Islamic Opposition' Arms Caches

LD1105183193 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] The staff of the emergency unit of the national security department of Khtalon Oblast has carried out operations to prevent provocations by members of the Islamic opposition who have taken refuge abroad. As a result of these operations, near the [words indistinct] village in the Shurabad region eight secret arms caches were discovered, which include 324 [words indistinct] surface-to-surface missiles, 300 meters [word indistinct] wire and five kg of explosives. A KHOVAR correspondent was told by the head of the operations that the price of such a quantity of military equipment is very high and that it cannot be bought on the black market. We have information that anti-government militants are supplied with arms, ammunition, and other military equipment by some foreign special services who are interested in destabilizing social and political situation in Tajikistan. The authorities of the State Committee for National Security of the Republic confidently state that attempts by the opposition groups to once again (?drag) the persecuted people of Tajikistan into a fratricidal war will definitely be foiled.

Prime Minister Appeals for Aid To Overcome Storm Damage

LD1105155293 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1400 GMT 11 May 93

[Interview with Prime Minister A. Abdullajanov by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given; from the "Novosti" newscast—live or recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Esteemed prime minister, what is your general view of the the situation in the republic, especially, if one is to take into account the problems caused by nature?

[Abdullajanov] You know, the situation in the republic is very difficult at present. Apart from the fact that the economic, social, and political situation in the republic was complex, we had also some natural disasters. As they say, it never rains but pours. Torrential rains over the past four to five days have been very heavy. We usually have this amount of rain during several years. Apart from torrential rains, the temperature also dropped, and it snowed in some areas. You know yourself that this is disastrous for agriculture.

But the political situation has not deteriorated because of this. Moreover, we believe that our people will overcome this difficult situation. Nevertheless, I would like to point out that it is unlikely that we will be able to manage without help from the CIS states and international organizations.

I would like to appeal to all heads of state and government of the CIS states and other countries like Georgia, Azerbaijan, and the Baltic countries, as well as other countries of the world community, and heads of international organizations to give us humanitarian aid and financial assistance.

Azerbaijan

Defense Ministry Rejects Grachev Statement on Weapons Deliveries

NC1205110893 Baku AZERTAC in English 0951 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] Baku, May 12, The Defence Ministry of Azerbaijan flatly rejected the unfounded accusation about the delivery of weapon from neighbouring countries, that supposedly took place in Azerbaijan. The above-mentioned accusation has been brought by Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev during his official visit to Turkey.

The Azerbaijani Defence Ministry statement, spread by the AZERTAC information agency, noted that 'the accusation of General Grachev is very dangerous and is contrary to the initiatives of Russia, USA and Turkey regarding the peaceful settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan'. The document also stressed that the appearance of such accusation is not by chance. According to military experts, the above-mentioned accusations 'sounds in unison with the statement of Armenian soldiers about the supposedly aggression of Azerbaijan, the tenth part of which has already been occupied by Armenians'.

The Azerbaijani Defence Department considers that on the other hand, using such accusations Grachev tries to draw away the world communities attention from the facts that goes that Russian soldiers supports the Armenian side and take part in military operations that goes on the territory of Azerbaijan. In this connection the Defence Ministry would like to remind that in Baku, just a few days ago, 6 soldiers of special company of Russian Army has appeared in military tribunal. These soldiers have been arrested in the Kelbadzhar District of Azerbaijan during their diversion.

The statement expressed the perplexity regarding the fact that Armenia, that has no air forces nevertheless has Russian military planes. The document stressed that these military cars took an active part in the latest fights in the Kelbadzhar and Lachin districts, situated in the south-western part of Azerbaijan.

The statement of the Defence Ministry goes that the equipment of Azerbaijani National Army, the creation of which goes in within the bounds of international commitments, has been received under the agreement between Azerbaijan and Russia when division of property of armed forces of former USSR. According to this statement, the CSCE military inspections, that have visited Azerbaijan, have been convinced of that.

Russian Envoy in Karabakh To Press Tripartite Plan

NC1105193093 Baku TURAN in English 1419 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] Baku May 11 (TURAN)—Today the representative of Moscow on Karabakh negotiations Kazimirov is in Khankendi (Stepanakert). He has arrived there from Yerevan after the negotiations with the President of Armenia Ter-Petrosyan.

As TURAN agency was informed, at present Moscow tries to persuade the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh to adopt the tripartite plan of settlement of Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict. It was known before Ter-Petrosyan agreed to realize this plan but the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh laid down the additional conditions.

Lately the political pressure of Moscow spread from Baku to Yerevan and then to Khankendi. The reviewers explain this fact as a result of diplomatic efforts of Washington.

The last date to adopt the tripartite plan by Karabakh Armenians is on May 11. If by chance the plan is not adopted the Armenian losses will not be only diplomatic but also the military ones.

President, Prime Minister Plan Visits to UK

NC1105162493 Baku TURAN in English 1419 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] Baku May 11 (TURAN)—The Prime-Minister Panakh Guseynov will come on an official visit to the Great Britain on May 23-25. TURAN agency was informed about it from the government sources.

During the visit Guseynov will meet the Prime-Minister of Great Britain John Major. The main purpose of the visit is the final agreement of contract terms on the exploitation of the Caspian oil fields by the BP oil company.

As TURAN agency was reported by the information source in the president staff Abulfaz Elchibey's visit to the Great Britain will not be at the end of May but will be at the end of June 1993.

Baku Agrees to Consulate in Tabriz

OW1105083493 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Russian 1500 GMT 30 Apr 93

[From the "Telefaks" newscast]

[Text] A consulate of the Azerbaijan Republic will open next month in Tabriz. A protocol, signed on the results of a visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran by Afiaddin Dzhalilov, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet of Azerbaijan, also says that a regular Tabriz-Baku air route will be opened in mid-May. Both sides agreed on the

construction of a new bridge over the Araks River on the border in the region of (Siakhrud) population center and Ordubad.

According to an IRNA report, agreement was reached on a visit to Baku in the near future by a delegation from Iran's East Azerbaijan Province with the aim of signing an agreement on cooperation in the construction of the (Khudafarim) dam on the Araks River.

Georgia

Russian Troop Unit Attacked in Kutaisi; Troops Open Fire

LD1105170693 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] This evening Georgian head of state Eduard Shevardnadze urgently flew to the town of Kutaisi because of an incident which has occurred there.

The press center of the headquarters of the Group of Russian Forces in the Transcaucasus reported that at 1430 on 11 May a group of 70 armed persons invaded the territory of the 754th Engineers and Sappers Battalion with the Russian troops in Kutaisi to seize military property. The raiders initially took seven women and one child hostage. The servicemen of the Russian unit were forced to use their weapons, as a consequence of which 10 of the raiders were killed and four were wounded, according to preliminary figures. The hostages were released. There were no casualties on the Russian side. We received this report from correspondent Nikolay Mamulashvili in Tbilisi.

Attackers Identified as Mkhedrioni Members

LD1105205093 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] In Kutaisi, a group of armed persons invaded the territory of a Russian battalion. The attack was resisted and 10 persons were killed and four wounded.

The GEORGIAN INFORMATION AGENCY reported that the fighters who attacked the military cantonment of a Russian sapper battalion were members of one of the Mkhedrioni military formations. This military unit is scheduled to be transferred shortly to the Georgian Ministry of Defense. The action—which was apparently undertaken to seize military property and which entailed a loss of life—was not sanctioned by the Ministry of Defense, the agency report stresses.

Shevardnadze: Unofficial Armed Group Behind Attack

LD1205005493 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0000 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian head of state, returned to Tbilisi from Kutaisi on Tuesday night, ITAR-TASS reports. Shevardnadze had made an urgent trip to the main center of West Georgia in connection with an attack on a Russian military base in that area. The Georgian leader said on his arrival that an unsanctioned attempt to remove weapons from the base by an unofficial armed formation had occurred. It was reported previously that a Mkhedrioni detachment was responsible for the incident in Kutaisi.

Shevardnadze Warns of 'Catastrophe'

LD1205102493 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze considers that Russian servicemen were hasty in using weapons against the detachment of Mkhedrioni who raided a Russian military unit in Kutaisi on 11 May to seize military hardware. The servicemen should have appealed to the town's mayor, and the incident could have been averted, the Georgian leader stated in an interview with journalists in Kutaisi. He arrived there yesterday afternoon.

Eduard Shevardnadze did not rule out the possibility that yesterday's events pursued some far-reaching plans. At a session of the government commission investigating the incident, the Georgian leader said that the idea was voiced that some people wanted to wreck the coming Russo-Georgian summit meeting in Moscow. He said that if raids on Russian units did not stop, Georgia's confrontation with the Russian Army is inevitable and would lead to catastrophe.

Kutaisi Mayor Details Events

LD1205102993 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0800 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] [Announcer] Now, let us listen to Mayor Temur Shashiashvili of Kutaisi.

[Begin recording] [Shashiashvili] Yesterday's events can be qualified as a tragedy. Our people who tried to occupy the territory [of the Russian military base], just the territory, I am stressing, made a serious mistake. Stealing arms was not intended.

It turned out to be a great political present for Russian chauvinistic circles before the meeting between Yeltsin and Shevardnadze. They have made full use of this present and thanked us by killing people.

The Russians are intact. I personally hold General Naumov fully responsible for the tragedy. He is the head of the corps here. Relations with him have been very tense lately. This can be proved by the letters that we had received from him or by the people's attitude lately.

This tragedy happened in the very military unit from which, about a month and a half ago, Gen. Naumov tried to secretly withdraw hardware from the town at 0130, despite a letter previously sent to me claiming that the hardware would stay in Kutaisi.

At the time of the withdrawal, I personally blocked the way and managed to keep the hardware in Kutaisi.

I would like to mention one thing: The mass media is claiming today that Russian women and children have been taken hostage. Yesterday, according to the corps headquarters, communications were cut off with the military unit. How can it be that at 1530, when there was no communications with the military unit, at 1515 information was transmitted to Russia and Tbilisi about what had happened?

Unfortunately, I was not in Kutaisi on that day; I got back after the tragedy had already happened. I was the first man to enter the territory; nobody from the Russian corps entered before me.

Gen. Naumov told Shevardnadze yesterday that he knew it was being prepared. He [Naumov] never warned anybody to avoid this tragedy; moreover, he had left town. It is with sadness that I would like to say that the Russians kept Georgians hostage. I saw about 20 Russian soldiers pointing guns at Georgians, with their hands up; this is what I saw with my own eyes.

Those women who Russian Television claims are being mistreated came to me, saying that nobody had uttered a bad word to them. By 1530, no Russian women or children were held hostage.

[Unidentified correspondent] Can you tell us exactly what happened?

[Shashiashvili] This territory was to be cleared in a month's time. Those people who invaded the territory made a grave mistake. Why invade the territory? I want to stress that nobody intended to steal arms.

[Correspondent] Who invaded the territory of the unit?

[Shashiashvili] A group of 15 people. The Russians say there were 60 of them and that they made off. I do not believe it.

[Correspondent] Are they our soldiers?

[Shashiashvili] Mainly they are Mkhedrioni members. Seven were killed, and three are in critical condition.

[Correspondent] Are they Georgians?

[Shashiashvili] Yes. The Russians are safe.

[Correspondent] What is the situation like at the moment?

[Shashiashvili] The town is under control. Eduard Shevardnadze, with other members of the leadership, was here yesterday, visited the military unit, met everybody.

The biased attitude of the Russian generals remains the same, but we are firm in our demands that Russian soldiers should leave this territory as quickly as possible. This military unit must leave the town if we want to avoid further tragedies. [end recording]

[Announcer] As you could hear, Mr. Temur Shashiashvili gave a detailed account of yesterday's incident in Kutaisi. We have once again witnessed that information spread by the Russian news agencies does not correspond fully to the truth.

One more thing, we must not be provoked in any way before the Russian-Georgian summit meeting, as these provocations would be to our detriment.

Abkhazian Forces Launch Attack on Gumista Front 11 May

LD1205082693 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0400 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] On the evening of 11 May at 2100, the Abkhaz side deployed its hardware across the Gumista River front line and opened massed fire at Georgian military formations from every type of weapon at its disposal. Positional battles were very fierce. Our artillery men returned the enemy's fire. Shelling was less intense by 0100, and it stopped altogether later on. So far this morning, it has been quiet on the front line.

Lithuania

Lithuania Accepted Into Council of Europe

LD1105151193 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1400 GMT 11 May 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Today, representatives of the West European countries accepted Lithuania into the Council of Europe. This is the first such case among the republics of the former USSR.

On Thursday, Estonia's membership will be on the agenda. However, Russia is against granting membership to Estonia. Moscow asserts that Estonia discriminates against its non-indigenous population.

Foreign Minister Meets NATO, EC Officials on Relations

WS1205105793 Tallinn BNS in English 0634 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] Vilnius, May 11, BNS—Lithuanian Foreign Minister Povilas Gylys Tuesday in Brussels held a meeting with Peter Corterier, secretary general of the North Atlantic Assembly; Manfred Woerner, NATO secretary general; and Hans van der Broek, EC foreign policy commissioner.

The meetings were devoted to coordination of Lithuania's relations and further cooperation with the international organizations, the Lithuanian Foreign Ministry reported.

Gylys will continue meetings with NATO experts and EC officials Wednesday. The foreign minister will be leaving for Strasbourg May 13, to take part in the continuing session of the Council of Europe.

Polish Ambassador Says Border With Lithuania 'Final'

WS1105140993 Tallinn BNS in English 1849 GMT 10 May 93

[Text] Vilnius, May 10, BNS—Jan Widacki, Poland's ambassador to Lithuania, said his country "recognizes the present border between Poland and Lithuania as permanent and final."

He said Poland "is seeking good relations with a Lithuania whose capital is Vilnius."

The Polish diplomat made the statement after the Lithuanian Foreign Ministry expressed "deep concern" with respect to some of Widacki's utterances in an interview with the Vilnius-based Polish KURJER WILENSKI, published May 5.

According to the ministry's statement, among other things the Polish ambassador said "it was only after World War II that Vilnius "was no longer a Polish city," when interpreting Poland's 1920 aggression against Lithuania.

Widacki said it is absolutely natural that two neighboring nations interpret the facts of their common history differently.

Further on Prime Minister's Interview on Market Economy

WS1105130093 Vilnius LIETUVOS AIDAS in Lithuanian 22 Apr 93 No. 75 p 5

[Interview with Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius, newly elected chairman of the Lithuanian Democratic Labor Party, by editor in chief Saulius Stoma: "Prime Minister Slezevicius Is Not Going To Dance to the Seimas' Tune?"]

[Text] We are continuing the interview begun yesterday.

[Stoma] **What will happen if during the five years of Seimas work most of rural people decide that they prefer to stay in agrarian cooperatives?**

[Slezevicius] That is their business. I am convinced that many large companies will be more profitable than small farms. I have no doubt. World experience proves this. The efficiency of world agriculture increases with such speed that is difficult to imagine. In the United States, one or two people work on a 400-500 hectare farm. Medium-sized farms there measure about 160 hectares.

[Stoma] **The size of European countries would be closer to ours.**

[Slezevicius] Between 34 and 36 hectares in Denmark.

[Stoma] **There are many representatives of agrarian companies in the Seimas. They are urging farmers to remain there. Agrarian companies may not prosper after the current Seimas ends its term, but their status quo will be preserved. However, the efficiency of individual farmers is greater. How will credits be distributed?**

[Slezevicius] Credits will be allotted not to agrarian cooperatives or farmers but to farmland. All agrarian subjects are equal. On the other hand, farmers will also be subsidized—we will support the construction of roads, the installation of electric power and telephone lines.

[Stoma] **How do you imagine the system of crediting? Neither farmers nor agrarian cooperatives know how to get these credits. Where have the 5 billion talonas assigned for the planting season disappeared to?**

[Slezevicius] I understand that some people are not very well aware and informed of these issues. These 5 billion are only the first step. Other credits should follow. The Agrarian Bank has distributed credits to the regions through the Ministry of Agriculture. Regional commissions will have to decide how to divide them among agrarian subjects.

[Stoma] **On what grounds?**

[Slezevicius] I do not know the principle. Certainly, not on party grounds. The commissions have specialists and interested persons. However, our credit resources are very slim. We expect some additional ones from the World Bank. This week we will get some diesel fuel, which will be distributed among all agrarian subjects free of charge as an expression of credit.

[Stoma] **Does this mean that everything will depend on a given regional commission?**

[Slezevicius] We cannot even think of giving credits to each agrarian subject. We will try transfer all further credits to the farmers' bank. The latter will extend credits to farmers.

[Stoma] **Haven't you set the amount of credits for farmers and agrarian cooperatives?**

[Slezevicius] They will be proportional. The key principle will be the size of farm land. The farmers' share will be small because farms are small, and they cannot compete with agrarian companies.

[Stoma] **However, if you acknowledge yourself that farmer's work is more efficient, he must be supported more.**

[Slezevicius] We would do this if we had more finances. Presently, some agrarian companies are on the verge of bankruptcy. I wonder whether any untilled areas remain. The attempt to differentiate this meager sum would be an unnecessary stirring of tension.

[Stoma] **Let us talk now about privatization which was suspended a month ago on the initiative of Prof. Antanavicius and is slowly regaining full swing. How do you assess this?**

[Slezevicius] I do not think that this one month has hampered the process of privatization seriously. There have been no essential changes. However, we could have done without suspending this process. In our opinion, privatization must be hastened in every possible way.

[Stoma] **What losses has this suspension entailed?**

[Slezevicius] They are impossible to evaluate.

[Stoma] **Economists estimate mechanical losses at 100 million talonas.**

[Slezevicius] From the populist perspective, we could say that the gain was the same. Both sides will be right. Enterprises and objects liable to privatization did not cease functioning. The evaluation of losses is economically incomprehensible.

[Stoma] **Many coupons which could have been in circulation were frozen.**

[Slezevicius] If we look from this perspective, the problem is much greater. The amount of coupons does not correspond to that of the assets that are to be privatized.

[Stoma] **I do not understand this. If there are too many coupons, their value is smaller than estimated—and that is that.**

[Slezevicius] Their value falls, but the problem is greater. Printing of money devalues it, while investment coupons are another issue. There are fewer assets allotted for privatization than investment coupons. Some objects are no longer privatized. Some agrarian objects were not privatized because there was no demand. There is nothing at all on the privatization list to cover 500,000 million talonas. We must review the concept of privatization—we should balance the amount of investment coupons with assets and privatize more objects. There are more problems with privatization. We suppose that its current concept does not encourage the rise of real owners. We equalize everyone socially, and one object acquires many shareholders. It is necessary to concentrate the capital that would create an owner.

[Stoma] **You are absolutely right here. How should this be accomplished?**

[Slezevicius] We should privatize not only for investment coupons, but also for money. We should finish the current type of privatization as soon as possible. Whether right or wrong, this is indisputable. We should let groups from workers' collectives draft investment projects, business plans, and accord credits on favorable terms. We should give priority to those who have a good business plan about how to use the object.

[Stoma] **Do you see more possibilities for bribery in this case? If there is someone to decide whose plan is better and who should be supported, corruption is likely to flourish even more, considering our situation.**

[Slezevicius] The fall of functionaries' prestige is a great problem. Their salaries are paltry. Your remark is correct. However, certain mistakes and deviations must not stop us from implementing the common goals. It is better to lose something than halt the process.

[Stoma] **My next question is about foreign investments. Everyone is talking that we must attract them. What will be your definite moves?**

[Slezevicius] It happened so that we are hopelessly lagging behind our neighbors in this sphere. Estonia, whose economy is 2.5 times smaller than ours, has more than 2,000 foreign joint ventures. Our number is much smaller; 800 among these are with Russia, and the rest are with other Eastern countries. Most of our joint ventures are not with Western countries. Estonians have investments for more than $100 million, whereas we have not a single more prominent investment project.

[Stoma] **So far the only LDLP move in the sphere of foreign investments has been the dissolution of the Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations.**

[Slezevicius] The first government established and staffed this department. By disbanding it we lost the employees. Later we came to the conclusion that the Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations is necessary. It was reestablished and disbanded again. The staff went to private firms and are very happy there, like, for example, former minister Aleskaitis. However, the state and economy have lost them. The change of structures entails the change in employees and the pace of implementing projects. We should abandon the practice when each new government abolishes old structures and creates new ones. The issue of foreign investments is now regulated by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Economy, Finance Ministry, Trade and Industry, and all other ministries according to their spheres. There is no one to coordinate this issue or to be responsible for it. If there is no structure to adopt final decisions, all work is futile. It is very important to set up an investment bank that should also be a joint-stock bank. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the banks of the Nordic countries, and the Lithuanian commercial banks should participate in it. The share of the state capital should melt there with time. Such a bank would be like a funnel for foreign investments.

[Stoma] **This is interesting. When Mr. Lubys was the government leader, his expressed very liberal views, but his decisions restricted businessmen's freedom. You seem to be even more liberal; thus, let us wait and see what your decisions will be like. What decisions of Lubys' government are you going to amend?**

[Slezevicius] We are going to amend as few decisions as possible concerning both the organizational structures and the government activities. Certain previous decisions infuriated businessmen. Monopolizing the trade in alcoholic beverages may not have been the right decision. I think that licenses should be sold.

[Stoma] **There was also a decision banning the re-exports of non-ferrous metals (from the CIS via Lithuania).**

[Slezevicius] I cannot yet comment on this, but there have really been some complaints. Some decisions that cannot be amended can be improved upon. We are a young state that started from a very complicated planned economy. The thinking of most of us should be changed to some extent. That is why its evolution is inevitable.

[Stoma] **I was very pleased to hear that you are going to speed up reform. Could you specify which mode of transfer to the market economy you prefer—the Polish model, which was partially the shock therapy, or the Chinese one, which was gradual?**

[Slezevicius] I suppose that we do not have much choice. Actually, I came to head the government after the shock therapy. The recent price hike is a real shock. It was determined by the increase in energy prices after the August coup. This changed the entire situation in the economy and production costs. For example, in the food industry, energy expenses formerly made up about 1-1.5 percent of production costs. Presently, they are nearing 30 to 40 percent.

[Stoma] **Does this mean that you are not accusing Vagnorius' government for its subjective blunders?**

[Slezevicius] I have always avoided personal criticism. There were both objective and subjective factors.

[Stoma] **Thank you for the interview.**

Landsbergis Comments on Russia's Withdrawal Plans

WS1205110093 Vilnius LIETUVOS AIDAS in Lithuanian 24 Apr 93 No. 77 p 3

[Article by opposition leader Vytautas Landsbergis: "Russia's Shadow"; under the "Opposition Leader's Column" rubric]

[Text] Judging by the information from the Russian press, Lithuanian officials seem to be conducting talks with Russia that are unknown to the public. I wish our institutions would provide information about this. In general, we have noticed that two kinds of statements alternate almost every day—that the Russian Army will be withdrawn according to the agreement and the schedule, and that it will not be withdrawn unless certain conditions are fulfilled. Sometimes Russia states that the agreement is invalid.

This is continuing even after Mr. S. Stepashin's visit to Lithuania and following President B. Yeltsin's assurance before the world in Vancouver that the Russian Army will be withdrawn from our country according to plan. Mr. Stepashin has also confirmed publicly several times that Russia will pull out its troops by 31 August. Both men have stressed that Russia has no claims to Lithuania. However, these strange daily tactics of psychological pressure and release are continuing. One should get used to it, but one should also respond to it. The key matter is the information we get, for example, after Mr. Stepashin's return to Moscow and his interview and statements. His 14 April interview contains the following wording: Russia's attitude toward Lithuania as an especially important Baltic country is defined as the "establishment of the closest... military relations" ("nalazhivanye tesneyshikh politicheskikh, ekonomicheskikh i voyennykh svyazey"). This is stated after the Belarusian legislature has already turned away from its Declaration of Independence—a constitutional document which says that Belarus will pursue the policy of neutrality. They have rejected this through a majority vote and are joining into the military union with Russia. Thus, Lithuania is of primary importance, and Russia is doing a lot in this respect. Stepashin used still other words when informing the troops about their withdrawal: Russia will observe the schedule "if the problems are resolved in a civilized manner." This means that Russia

will not simply observe the plan, but will demand certain conditions that may include anything. On 12 and 16 April, the Russian foreign minister also issued a few interesting statements. The withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltics is again stipulated by the construction of housing for Russian troops, and all interested parties may contribute to this. Are we again being demanded some payment for the withdrawal? What else can be said when Stepashin refers to Mr. Brazauskas' "decision" to send some Lithuanian builders free of charge? Lithuania would pay for the construction of housing for Russian soldiers, which would mean a change in its stand. We agreed earlier to assist Russia in resolving this problem on condition that there is some international aid and that Russia itself obtains the financing. However, constructing free of charge means paying for the withdrawal. We may hear about this as a "civilized" decision, because Lithuania has had a ransom extracted. I wonder whether such a ransom will be enough....

Another statement made by the Russian foreign minister on 12 April runs as follows: The "inflexible stand of Latvia and Estonia" is likely to provoke "a Moldova-type conflict" in the Baltics. Their inflexible position is defined as "arbitrarily depriving people of their citizenship," as if these persons had possessed Latvian or Estonian citizenship, and some unknown external factors "arbitrarily" took it away from them. This is not just street gossip or incitements at Yedinstvo [pro-Soviet movement that acted against the restoration of Lithuania's independence] rallies, but the opinion of an official institution—the Russian Foreign Ministry.

Stepashin touches on this issue in his interview. According to him, Russia has reached an agreement with the Lithuanian leaders on dual citizenship. Stepashin says that Lithuania is ready to accord dual citizenship to all pensioners. He speaks about "war and work veterans"—that is, about a large category of pensioners who are only "Russian-speaking." We have always wondered why Russia takes care of Armenians, Ukrainians, or Moldovans who have their own communities in Lithuania. Pressure is exercised again, and Mr. Stepashin thinks that our government has agreed with dual citizenship. The Lithuanian authorities have not denied this. Stepashin also speaks about joint military enterprises. He mentions a "joint venture" such as a hospital for the "Russian-speaking population." We know that the former is attempting to turn the military hospital into a Russian hospital and Russian property, because a joint venture means common property. If we acknowledge military enterprises as part of Russia's property, this would be a violation of our law. Demands concerning military transit to Kaliningrad district and the establishment of joint military ventures would mean a military agreement with Russia. This would begin drawing Lithuania into a real military union and prevent its independent integration with Western Europe and its structures. This is what partial military agreements may threaten us with.

The last strange sign was President Yeltsin's statement at the rally on 16 April that Russia will not withdraw its Army from the Baltics (REUTER's report mentions all three Baltic countries) until it fulfills one condition. The latter embraces all Russian-speaking communities as a Soviet international entity which exists in Lithuania and whose rights Russia is going to defend by stepping up pressure on the Army's non-withdrawal.

Some of these statements, like the president's, may be meant for rallies and the upcoming referendum. Russia is indeed shivering with political fever before the 25 April referendum. However, we must not overlook these issues, and should inquire to our government about the meaning of Stepashin's words that an "agreement" on joint military ventures, transit, and dual citizenship for pensioners has been reached. We should also ask it about how the establishment of "the closest military relations" is manifested. There has also been some talk about Russia assisting us in training special-purpose units (Spetsnaz?). Is this a privileged, USSR-type unit of the Lithuanian Interior Ministry, or are we becoming a police state? Where does the threat come from? Why?

It seems that our government and the Foreign Ministry are not very much interested in such developments as the wandering of Russian Embassy employees throughout Lithuania collecting signatures among the Russian-speaking population against "Yeltsin's referendum" (is it to be held in foreign countries and involve foreign citizens?) or for pensioners' double citizenship (in Panevezys). Are these the activities of diplomats, or are they troublemaking and incitement?